

United States Senate

March 31, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Decatur's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* discretionary grants program. Funding from this program will support the installation of a grade separation and interchange at Brush College Road and Faries Parkway.

Decatur is the largest city in Macon County with a current population of 70,522 residents. It was founded in 1829 and is situated along Sangamon River and Lake Decatur in Central Illinois. The City is seeking funds to construct a grade separation and interchange at Brush College Road and Faries Parkway. The crossing at Brush College Road is a critical conduit for freight, light vehicles and public transportation in the region. Currently, commuters traveling on Brush College Road encounter significant and frequent bottlenecks at the Norfolk Southern grade crossing at Faries Parkway. It is also an area prone to accidents and considered hazardous for drivers. The installation of this grade separation and interchange will enhance transportation safety for the region, increase access to jobs and provide much needed multi-use connectivity between residential areas and the industrial center of Central Illinois.

As one of my top priorities in the Senate is to modernize Illinois infrastructure, I understand the critical role that the Department of Transportation can play in improving our transportation systems. By funding this project, the City of Decatur can move closer to improving their public infrastructure, create new workforce opportunities and bolster the local economy.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of Decatur's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* discretionary grants program. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge you to give the application full and fair consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my Downstate Director, Randy Sikowski, at (217) 524-6124.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator