

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

February 27, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

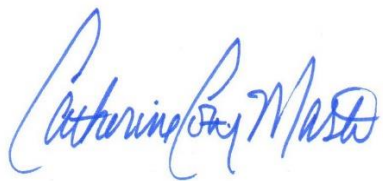
We are writing in support of the Regional Transportation of Southern Nevada's (RTC) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) application through the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). This grant will allow the RTC to take critical first steps in improving public transportation through the completion of planning and an environmental assessment for future high capacity transit along Charleston Boulevard. The planning work funded by this application meets the goals and criteria of the RAISE grant program by laying the foundation for improved safety, enhanced equity, and increased quality of life for underserved and vulnerable populations.

Charleston Boulevard, which is one of the most traveled corridors in the Las Vegas metropolitan area, is nearly 17 miles long and connects the east and west regions of the Valley. This regionally significant project will benefit a total population of approximately 105,000 individuals within a half mile of the project area, of which more than 30 percent of households report an annual income of \$25,000 or less. Funding for initial project stages will identify a framework for future improvements to include complete streets, dedicated transit lanes, improved transit amenities, and pedestrian crossing areas. The diversity of businesses, resources, workforce opportunities, and residential areas coupled with growing traffic congestion and high volumes of pedestrian traffic make this a priority project for the RTC and our region.

The essential planning and environmental work proposed to be funded under this application will accelerate the delivery of benefits to communities who need it most. Robust outreach targeting local residents, neighborhood associations, community groups, business associations, business owners, and property owners has garnered enthusiastic support and indicated that high capacity transit on Charleston Boulevard is highly desired and well received.

As a trusted public agency that carried more than 40 million passenger trips for FY 2022, we support RTC's efforts to meet the transportation needs for residents and travelers in Clark County and look forward to the many benefits that this project will provide to our community. We respectfully ask for your fair consideration of the RTC's RAISE grant request, and please do not hesitate to contact any of us or our staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senate



Jacky Rosen
United States Senate



Dina Titus
United States House of Representatives



Steven Horsford
United States House of Representatives



Susie Lee
United States House of Representatives