

United States Senate

July 22, 2021

The Honorable Pete M. Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of Atlantic City's application for funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity ("RAISE") discretionary grant program. The *Atlantic City Corridor Revitalization & Safety Project* will take an innovative approach to rebuilding critical infrastructure, increasing the efficient flow of traffic, and significantly enhancing the safety of the surrounding community. I hope you will give full and fair consideration to this proposal.

If approved, the *Atlantic City Corridor Revitalization & Safety Project* will revitalize and fund critical safety and technological renovations to Atlantic Avenue, the "Main Street" of Atlantic City's downtown. Improvements include reducing the travel lanes from four to two, the installation of ADA accessible sidewalks, drainage facilities, new bike paths, clear sight lines, updated intersection synchronized signalization, wayfinding, LED street-lighting, and upgraded accessibility to transit stops. Additionally, this project will ensure the installation of underground fiber optic utilities and embed sensors into the new infrastructure. Ensuring the installation of communications between the computer-based traffic controllers will allow real time traffic data to be monitored, and overall upgrades will provide necessary improvements to this major coastal city that is impacted by climate change-related degradation. With increased potential for coastal flooding year after year, and the ever-changing seasonal flows of traffic in Atlantic City, traffic signal operations should be able to be modified quickly, safely, and in real-time, to facilitate efficient traffic flow during emergency conditions.

In addition, this project is designed to address major safety issues that exist on Atlantic Avenue. According to local police department data documents, there were over 350 accidents on Atlantic Avenue in 2019, resulting in 84 injuries and two deaths. The scope of the project is supported by data-driven engineering analysis in order to select safety countermeasures and roadway improvements that reduce the frequency of collisions and improve road safety for the 24 million annual visitors, 38,000 residents, and the tens of thousands of people who work in Atlantic City.

If approved, this project will help Atlantic City achieve many of its fundamental goals of stimulating local economic development, reducing travel delays, improving quality of life, increasing safety for drivers & pedestrians, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and enhancing the region's transportation infrastructure. I ask that you give all due consideration to this meritorious grant proposal, and thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator