

Greensboro Police Foundation | 320 Federal Place | Greensboro, NC 27401

June 20, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Please accept this letter of support for the East Greensboro Greenway's (or "the Project's") application to the USDOT's 2023 Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) Grant program. This collaborative project, spearheaded by the City of Greensboro (the City) with support from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), will complete environmental review and 100% design for a 6.6-mile, active transportation network in downtown Greensboro located primarily in census tracts with poverty rates of 40 percent or more. Its goal is to become a vital asset developed hand-in-hand with the community – a greenway that is safe and inclusive for people of all ages and abilities and reflective of East Greensboro's culture and creative spark.

The Project will connect the J. Douglas Gaylon Intermodal Depot, which provides passenger rail service and is the City of Greensboro's main hub for local, regional, and intercity bus service to Barber Park, a 109-acre park that offers a variety of recreational amenities, including a community run-bike shop. Along the way, the Project will connect key community destinations, two Historically Black College or University (HBCUs); seven K-12 schools; and several neighborhood parks, including Bingham Park, a 13-acre park developed atop a former waste disposal site and currently undergoing remediation as the City strives for environmental justice. Additionally, the project provides first- and last-mile connections to Greensboro Transit Agency bus routes by integrating with the City's new Crossmax service.

The East Greensboro Greenway project will bring about a transformative change for the community by addressing historical issues of underinvestment and detrimental land use and transportation policies which prioritized vehicular travel while neglecting other transportation options, such as bicycling, walking, and public transit. This Project will provide residents and visitors with more options for commuting routes; improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety by providing a separated facility and implementing proven countermeasures at road crossings.

As the Executive Director of the Greensboro Police Foundation, I strongly endorse the East Greensboro Greenway project. The mission of the Greensboro Police Foundation is to provide funding and other resources to the Greensboro Police Department as it strives to make Greensboro a safe city for all people. The greenway's positive impact on pedestrian and bicyclist safety in east Greensboro is a critical component of our vision. Furthermore, the greenway will connect residents to Barber Park, home of Safety Town at Barber Park. Safey Town is a kid-sized village where every summer the Greensboro Police Department conducts two-week safety education day camps for young children. The Greensboro Police Foundation constructed a second site of Safety Town in Barber Park two years ago with the goal of increasing access to this wonderful education program that has operated in our city for over forty years.



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By providing residents with more options for transportation routes, we increase access to Safety Town that much more.

The East Greensboro Greenway will create a safer and more equitable active transportation network in Greensboro. We strongly encourage you to favorably consider Greensboro's East Greensboro Greenway grant application for ATIIP funding.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Jacobs

Executive Director

Greensboro Police Foundation