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TRANSFORMING DOWNTOWN HIGH POINT:  
AN EXTRAORDINARY AND VIBRANT  
DESTINATION TO LIVE, WORK, STUDY AND PLAY.

June 28, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY2021 RAISE Grant Application – High Point on the RISE: Reimagining Infrastructure for Sustainability and Equity

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Forward High Point Foundation strongly supports the RAISE grant application “High Point on the RISE: Reimagining Infrastructure for Sustainability and Equity” which is the result of a collaboration between the City of High Point, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), and other local stakeholders, including our organization.

This multimodal project in the heart of Downtown High Point will improve access to transit, jobs, public resources, and opportunities for low-income communities of color. As part of a statewide and regional greenway spine identified in the NCDOT Great Trails State Plan, this project can be a national model for state, regional and local coordination to create a safer, more equitable, and better-connected multimodal transportation network for all users.

Forward High Point is a non-profit organization that was established to help spearhead the transformation of Downtown High Point as an extraordinary and vibrant destination to live, work, study and play. We can only be successful at that if downtown is accessible and linked to all of the various neighborhoods within the city. This plan provides safe and attractive, connections between our residential neighborhoods, downtown, our Hospital, Public Library, Children’s Museum and to our local university.

By supporting these efforts, USDOT can showcase a project that aligns closely with its objectives under the Biden Administration’s objectives, including enhancing access to opportunities for historically marginalized communities, creating an equitable transportation system that works for everyone, and transitioning to a more environmentally conscience network that prioritizes non-motorized users. This project will deliver healthy, climate-friendly, resilient, and integrated transportation options for residents and visitors of Downtown High Point. It will serve the City of High Point, the State of North Carolina, and its residents well for years to come.

Thank you for considering our application for RAISE Program funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Raymond J. Gibbs", written over a horizontal line.

Raymond J. Gibbs, PLA  
President