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July 6, 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:

The High Point Market Authority 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.

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.

The High Point Market Authority is the official sponsor and organizer of the High Point Market in High Point, N.C. Featuring an extensive selection of exhibitors spanning every category, style, and price point, and attracting tens of thousands of visitors from more than 100 countries twice each year, High Point Market is the driving force of the home furnishings industry. The RAISE Program will further enhance the esthetics of downtown High Point and complement our efforts for a carless event, beautification and enhanced pedestrian wayfinding.

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 black ink that reads 'Tammy C. Nagem'.

Tammy C. Nagem, COO