



PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

1398 CARROLLTON CROSSING DRIVE
KERNERSVILLE, NC 27284
(336) 904-0300
MATTHEW L. DOLGE • EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 1, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Piedmont Triad Regional Council expresses full support for the City of High Point and the North Carolina Department of Transportation's RAISE grant proposal: *"High Point on the RISE: Reimagining Infrastructure for Sustainability and Equity"*.

We have worked for years with the City of High Point and the Southwest Renewal Foundation on various planning elements of this project and are looking forward to its fruition. The proposed 16 miles of greenway and complete streets conversion will connect several community destinations between Southwest High Point, downtown and High Point University to the north and east. The project will expand alternative transportation options and support walking, bicycling and transit, and provide meaningful benefits to underserved communities in High Point's southwest district adjacent to downtown and north to the public library.

The Piedmont Triad Regional Council has utilized EPA investments in the corridor to address brownfields, catalyzing investment in the former industrial uses in the corridor. This project will support improvements to health and safety through air quality improvements and innovative street design; while environmental sustainability via innovative stormwater management for the headwaters of the Deep River will improve quality of life in the project footprint.

The progress that the City of High Point and Southwest Renewal Foundation and supporters have made on the proposed greenway is incredible, with an impressive amount of funding sought and secured. However, funding from the RAISE Grant Program would allow the City of High Point and local partners to fully complete the proposed greenway and complete streets project outlined in the proposal, which connects several key destinations including the transit station, public library, University, parks and the new stadium.

We sincerely hope you will see the alignment this project has with RAISE grant objectives of supporting historically marginalized communities, creating equitable transportation that works for everyone and transitioning to a more environmentally conscious network that prioritizes non-motorized users.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Dolge
Executive Director