

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

eliminating racism
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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:

YWCA High Point 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.

YWCA High Point has been a champion for women and families in the High Point area since 1920. Our eight core departments (Aquatics and Wellness, Youth Services, Maternal Health, Teaching Kitchen, Latino Family Center, Women’s Resource Center, Studio Arts and Social Justice) provide equitable opportunities for all. Social and Racial Justice has long been at the core of YWCA High Point’s mission and we feel that this project will help reduce disparities and provide sensible and achievable solutions to many of the challenges facing low-income communities of color. It will provide access to jobs, food and other resources that will not only affect these marginalized communities within our city but will make High Point a more welcoming and cohesive community as a whole. “High Point on the RISE” encompasses our mission of eliminating racism and empowering women and providing peace, justice, dignity and freedom for all and we look forward to being a part of this great work.

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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,

Alice Owens, Operations Director