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February 7, 2024

The Honorable Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: FY2024 RAISE Planning Grant Application - Rivanna River Bicycle and Pedestrian Crossing: Preliminary Engineering Phase

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express support for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission's (TJPDC) application for funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program (DTOS59-24-RA-RAISE) to complete the preliminary engineering phase of work for the Rivanna River Bicycle and Pedestrian Crossing, which would provide a vital multi-modal connection between the Pantops growth area in Albemarle County and the rest of the Charlottesville-Albemarle urbanized area.

The County of Albemarle has actively contributed to the planning work completed to date on this project through participation in the Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization (CA-MPO), staffed by the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission. Due to the collaborative regional planning approach taken to advance this project, a bridge location was selected that will support a number of ongoing County initiatives. The bridge will improve the overall connectivity of the Pantops growth area to the larger urbanized area, integrate with economic development and revitalization goals for sites in close proximity to the Rivanna River, and support Albemarle County's Climate Action Plan recommendations by providing safe and comfortable multi-modal infrastructure as an alternative to single occupancy vehicle use. This bridge is supported by the Pantops Master Plan and the Urban Rivanna River Corridor Plan, which were both accepted by the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors.

I am pleased to offer my ongoing support for this application to complete the preliminary engineering project phase as the next step towards the construction of this bridge.

Sincerely,

Jim H. Andrews
Chair, Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

CC:
Albemarle County Board of Supervisors
Jeffrey B. Richardson, County Executive
Steve Rosenberg, County Attorney