United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

September 14, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, D.C. 20509

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am pleased to support the City of Milwaukee's (City) application for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation. Awarded funding would help to support the City's development of a Safety Action Plan as well as conduct Demonstration Activities.

Per the City, speeding has contributed to more than half of roadway deaths in Milwaukee over the past five years, and reckless driving remains a serious concern across the city. In light of these pressing safety issues, the City recently received a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to develop a Citywide Mobility Plan (Plan), which will help to guide transportation decision making in the coming years. The proposed SS4A Planning Activities will bring the Citywide Mobility Plan to satisfy all components of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan – an important effort in the City's guiding transportation document. The City will involve stakeholders of all levels in the development of the Plan, and is already collaborating with Milwaukee County in anticipation of the Milwaukee County and Municipalities Action Plan, seeking to integrate findings of the County's plan into the Citywide Mobility Plan.

Additionally, the City's proposed data-driven Demonstration Activities will also provide direct opportunities for engagement and conversation with the community at all levels. Of note, the City initiated a Rapid Implementation program in 2020, which has been successful at reducing speeds and vulnerable user crashes. While this quick-build approach has seen safety successes, it has not yet been implemented on a citywide scale. The proposed Demonstration Activities will inform the Citywide Mobility Plan's specific project recommendations with local data, as well as help integrate existing program efforts in neighborhoods across the city.

I strongly support comprehensive proposals that improve the safety and accessibility of Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure, benefiting residents and our communities at large. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given the City of Milwaukee's SS4A application. Please keep my office updated on the progress of this application by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator