

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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

August 4, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am pleased to support Portage County's application for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation. If awarded, funding would be leveraged with a local match to support the County's proposal to help reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries. Proposal partners include the City of Stevens Point, Village of Plover, Village of Whiting, and the Village of Park Ridge in Portage County.

According to the County, there were 1,426 total crashes reported from 2017 to 2021, resulting in 31 fatalities and 1,872 injuries countywide. Additionally, the County notes there was a 61% fatality increase in 2022 compared to previous 5 years' average, as well as a 274% increase in high traffic, work related corridor crashes. If awarded, SS4A funding would help to lessen fatalities and serious injuries by developing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (Action Plan), updating the Portage County Countywide Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan (PCCBPP) as a Supplemental Safety Plan, and employing Demonstration Activities to inform the Action Plan and PCCBPP.

I strongly support proposals that improve the safety, equity, 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 to Portage County's SS4A application. Please keep my office updated on the progress of this application by email at [projects\\_grants@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov). Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator