

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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

February 24, 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 Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) application for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant program through the Department of Transportation. If awarded, funding would allow WisDOT to construct a Rehabilitation Project along one of the busiest freeway sections in Wisconsin to improve safety and operations.

The project is located in the Milwaukee area just north of the recently completed Zoo Interchange Mega Project, from Burleigh Street to Silver Spring Drive. This freeway was first constructed in 1966 and the pavement is reaching the end of its serviceable life. According to WisDOT, the corridor is currently experiencing high levels of congestion, along with resulting crashes, between interchanges and traffic in the area is expected to continue to grow.

If awarded funding, the project aims to relieve the congestion and safety needs of the corridor by adding auxiliary lanes between interchanges at the areas experiencing the worst problems. This solution does not include any expansion outside of the existing right of way. The project will also improve multiple bridges, ensuring they remain in a state of good repair. Additionally, the pavement needs of the corridor will be met with an asphalt overlay and High Friction Surface Treatment (HFST) applied to areas with sharp curves to enhance safety. Finally, a noise wall will be replaced on the west side of I-41 near Hampton Ave and a new noise wall created on the east side of I-41 between Hampton Ave and Silver Springs Drive, as approved by community vote.

I strongly support proposals that improve the safety and sustainability of our transportation infrastructure. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to WisDOT's RAISE 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