

April 1, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: RAISE Grant Application – Highway 14 Corridor Project – City of Marshalltown, IA

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Iowa Economic Development Authority, I respectfully submit the following letter of support for the Highway 14 Corridor RAISE Transportation Grant application the City of Marshalltown is submitting. The project addresses community safety and increases economic vitality – two benefits that will positively impact the State of Iowa and the region’s citizens.

The portion of Highway 14 which runs through Marshalltown’s downtown district has seen multiple accidents and has raised safety concerns. These issues will be a large focus of the Highway 14 Corridor project. Implementing changes to protect residents and visitors throughout Iowa communities is critical and a significant reason I support this project. In addition, the project encompasses multiple economic vitality components. Goals that will be addressed to achieve economic vitality include:

1. Developing a proactive approach to drive new business
2. Targeting businesses and services that are unique and have an existing demand
3. Creating incentives for reinvestment within the community
4. Reducing barriers to opportunities for growth and prosperity

I have seen how the community of City of Marshalltown has come together as a result of the two federally declared disasters in 2018 and 2020 and the great work they have done to recover. Marshalltown is a community committed to building back better, and this project will continue to advance their recovery and economic development efforts. Supporting this project with a RAISE Transportation Grant will be a great investment not only for Marshalltown, but for the entire state as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Debi Durham
Executive Director
Iowa Economic Development Authority
Iowa Finance Authority