



April 7, 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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am submitting this letter to show Marshalltown Water Works' support of the Highway 14 Corridor project and RAISE grant application made by the City of Marshalltown. The proposed project is one that benefits the entire community, including utility partners like Water Works by providing an opportunity for a collective reconstruction project in which we partner together.

Marshalltown Water Works manages the entire water treatment and distribution system in the City of Marshalltown. Organizationally, we are a component unit of the City, with a separate utility board wholly created by the City of Marshalltown, but not directly overseen by the City's elected officials or part of the City of Marshalltown's budget. This has the potential to be a bit confusing when it comes to projects where both Water Works and the City have infrastructure projects; however, we approach these opportunities as partners. With the Highway 14 Corridor project, we are each bringing something to the table; for Marshalltown Water Works, we are committing \$2.5 million towards the water infrastructure replacement as part of this project.

The water lines in the Highway 14 Corridor are among the oldest in our community. These water lines deliver water to some of the highest poverty, largest minority areas of our community and are frequently subject to breaks in warm and cold weather, diminishing the reliability of available, safe water for these populations. We believe everyone should have a safe, reliable distribution system for water, and the replacement of the water mains and infrastructure as part of the corridor project addresses social justice issues which are difficult to address as a standalone project.

We support the City of Marshalltown's submission of this application and hope you will see the value that it will bring by providing financial assistance to the Marshalltown community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shelli Lovell
General Manager