



April 8, 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 – Marshalltown Iowa –
“Puerta de Marshalltown” the Highway 14 Corridor Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is pleased to submit this letter of support for the RAISE Transportation Grant application submitted by the City of Marshalltown. The IDNR’s Brownfield Redevelopment Program has been working with the City of Marshalltown to support their efforts in brownfield redevelopment along the Highway 14 Corridor, including technical and financial assistance from our brownfield program to aid with environmental assessment and cleanup of brownfield sites along and near the corridor.

The proposed enhancements to the Highway 14 Corridor for roadway replacement, utility improvements, pedestrian access and landscaping, will encourage the redevelopment of properties along the corridor; the IDNR’s assistance with brownfield redevelopment support for properties within this important travel corridor will complement these infrastructure investments and beneficial outcomes.

As the northern gateway to Marshalltown, the naming of this project, Puerta de Marshalltown, symbolizes the strong, diverse cultural community that welcomes travelers and residents. This community has persevered through a catastrophic EF-3 tornado in 2018, a destructive Derecho wind event in 2020, and the Covid-19 pandemic. Through all these challenges, the goal of rebuilding and strengthening the community has not wavered.

Marshalltown is a state designated Iowa Great Place community, and projects such as this corridor rebuilding and revitalization, contribute to providing economic development opportunities that rely on quality infrastructure. Marshalltown is dedicated to improving the corridor with a focus on environmental sustainability and resiliency.

Marshalltown excels at developing partnerships and mutual success with state and federal programs to improve the community, and as the City continues to rebuild from multiple disasters in this last three-year period, the IDNR is proud to be a partner in their efforts related to brownfield assessment, cleanup, and community revitalization. The IDNR recommends that this project be selected for RAISE funding for this key transportation corridor revitalization project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mel Pins", written over a white background.

Mel Pins
Executive Officer
Iowa Brownfield Redevelopment Program