

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are writing to express our support for the application submitted by the City of Fargo, North Dakota, on behalf of the 12th Avenue North Bridge replacement project to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. Thank you for your consideration.

The 12th Avenue North Bridge faces a number of challenges in its current condition, including frequent closures due to high water flooding on the Red River of the North, which serves as the border between Minnesota and North Dakota. The closure of this bridge cuts off a major traffic corridor that provides direct access to the Fargo Veterans Affairs Medical Center that serves veterans in North Dakota, western Minnesota, and northeast South Dakota.

The 12th Avenue North Bridge also connects multiple Areas of Persistent Poverty, providing a direct route to Sanford Health's Broadway Medical Center, North Dakota State University, Hector International Airport, and to the regional jobs located in the Fargo Industrial Park. Due to these factors, we believe that this project meets the requirements and goals of the RAISE program and would provide the City of Fargo the means to study a sustainable path forward towards replacing this critical crossing for North Dakotans and Minnesotans.

Accordingly, we hope that the City of Fargo's application receives your favorable consideration, and that all of North Dakota's applications receive your full and fair consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please keep us informed of the review process, and feel free to contact us with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,



John Hoeven
U.S. Senator



Kevin Cramer
U.S. Senator



Kelly Armstrong
U.S. Congressman