

United States Senate

April 6, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

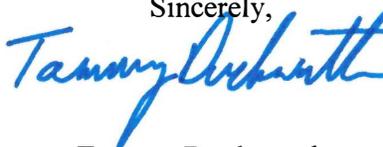
I am writing to express my support for the City of East Moline's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* discretionary grants program. Funding from this program will support the City's *Greater Downtown Revitalization Project*.

Located in Rock Island County, the City of East Moline has a population of 21,374 residents and is a part of the region known as the Quad Cities that has an estimated population of 381,342 people. In recent years, regional manufacturing industries have experienced a decline which has led to a disinvestment in the City's downtown area. As a response, the City developed the *Greater Downtown Revitalization Project*, a plan designed to promote regrowth, increase business diversity and establish a connected and recognizable downtown district. The project will connect the City's older downtown core, centered around 15th Avenue, to the new entertainment and tourism attractions to its north. Plans include enhancements to trail connections, improved sidewalks and added crossings; redesigned blocks of curb less street-scaping to enhance accessibility, aesthetics and flexibility with multi-use pedestrian spaces between shops and street; the conversion of the passive pedestrian rail crossing at 7th Street to an active crossing; the installation of green infrastructure to reduce storm water runoff and will provide more transportation options through improved access to transit stops, bike facilities and trails. The installation of the *Greater Downtown Revitalization Project* will rejuvenate the local economy, enhance commuter safety and connect visitors and residents to a more cohesive and attractive downtown district.

As one of my top priorities in the Senate is to modernize Illinois infrastructure, I understand the critical role that the Department of Transportation can play in improving our transportation systems. By funding this project, the City of East Moline can provide their downtown area with a much-needed, sustainable face-lift while dramatically improving its safety and connectivity for travelers.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of East Moline's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* discretionary grants program. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge you to give the application full and fair consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my Downstate Director, Randy Sikowski, at (217) 524-6124.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator