



March 22, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing on behalf of the North Area Transportation Alliance (NATA) to express support for the City of Brighton's RAISE grant application for the Bridge Street "Smart Street" Project. This project fulfills the grant objectives: promote multimodal transportation improvements, environmental sustainability, and promoting environmental justice by providing sidewalks and access to bus and bicycle transit. Through this grant, Brighton will alleviate traffic congestion, enhance regional connectivity, promote economic activity, and to pilot smart technologies that will support more sustainable and data-driven transportation decisions moving forward.

Brighton's population doubled in two decades and has stressed existing infrastructure. In its current state, Bridge Street from 22nd to 42nd Avenue has two lanes, large spans with no sidewalks, no bus stops, and a fragmented connection to the RTD bus route. Since it is connected to CO-7 and is a future connection for I-76, Bridge Street serves as a key conduit for vehicle traffic and freight, and is part of a regional plan to provide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) from Brighton to Boulder.

The City seeks to proactively address inefficiencies in transportation as well as the lack of economic opportunities for low-income residents. With the RAISE Grant, Brighton will be able to promote multimodal transportation by adding sidewalks and bus stops that support the regional BRT plan, provide enhanced connectivity to Brighton and the Denver metropolitan area. Medians and painted crosswalks will address safety concerns in Brighton's Vision ZERO Plan. Traffic signals will include technologies that enhance the ability to collect data for future decision making, and will allow adaptive programming to reduce idling emissions. Finally, improving stormwater collection and xeriscaping will further reduce environmental impacts and enhance water security in this drought affected region.

As a strong supporter of this project, I urge the Department of Transportation to give full and fair consideration to this project through the RAISE Grant.

Sincerely,

Lynn Baca
NATA Chair
CC: NATA Membership