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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

February 29, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 25090

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write in support of the City of Bothell's application to the *U.S. Department of Transportation's* (*USDOT*) Bridge Planning Grant under the FY23-26 Bridge Investment Program to complete a "Type, Size and Location Report for the Replacement of the 102nd Ave NE Bridge over SR-522 and Sammamish River," for the 102nd Avenue NE Bridge Replacement Project. At nearly 75 years old, the bridge is rapidly approaching the end of its operational lifespan. This funding would be an invaluable asset, expediting Bothell's efforts and those of the region to replace aging infrastructure.

Located in North Puget Sound, Bothell is a diverse, vibrant, and rapidly growing community spanning between King and Snohomish Counties. The 102nd Ave Bridge serves as a critical regional conduit over the Sammamish River, linking south Bothell to the city's bustling downtown establishments, parks, City Hall, and other public and community spaces. The bridge also fosters connectivity between downtown Bothell and the broader regional trail system, including Sammamish River Park.

Additionally, the bridge is paramount for community public safety. It enables quick access for emergency responders from Bothell's Police and Fire Departments and plays a vital role for many of Bothell's senior residents serving the Northshore Senior Center, several senior housing facilities and neighborhoods located just south of the Sammamish River.

For these reasons, I appreciate your full and fair consideration of the City of Bothell's grant application. Please reach out to Rachel.Alger@mail.house.gov in my office with any additional questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Suzan DelBene, WA-01

