

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 22, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We request your careful consideration of the City of Lynnwood's application for \$25 million for its Poplar Way Bridge project under the 2022 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program.

The Poplar Way Bridge project will create a new crossing over Interstate-5 (I-5) and alleviate congestion for transit, freight, residents, emergency services and visitors. Lynnwood, Washington, is located at the intersection of two major highways, Interstate-405 and I-5. Currently, the freeway on- and off-ramps frequently back up onto I-5 due to congestion from commuter traffic. This congestion increases traffic accidents, greenhouse gas emissions, transit line disruptions and reduces the efficiency of freight mobility.

The Poplar Way Bridge project is "construction ready" and will help to accommodate future population and economic growth. According to Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) Vision 2050 Regional Growth Strategy, the Puget Sound region is expected to grow by 1.5 million people by 2050. PSRC lists Lynnwood as one of the sixteen Core Cities designated to accommodate 28 percent of the region's population growth and 35 percent of its employment growth. The Poplar Way Bridge Project would help accommodate this growth and provide a safer and more direct connection between Lynnwood's regionally vital business and employment centers.

The bridge will also create a more equitable transportation system. The project is centered in one of Lynnwood's historically disadvantaged census tracts and will provide multimodal connectivity to Sound Transit's Lynnwood City Center Station. The station is under construction with a targeted opening date in 2024. Additionally, the station will facilitate transit-oriented development around the light rail station, increasing community connections and mobility throughout the region.

For these reasons, we ask that you give full and fair consideration to the City of Lynnwood's RAISE grant application. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen  
U.S. Representative  
Washington State, Second District



Suzan DelBene  
U.S. Representative  
Washington State, First District