

# United States Senate

March 14, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

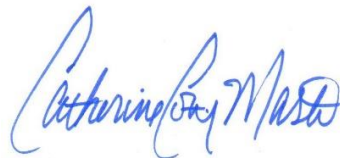
I am writing today in support of an application submitted by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) for the Ely Downtown Project, to the U.S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. Any of the constituent parts of this project – from roadway reconstruction, lane reconfiguration, drainage and utilities improvements to traffic signal updates, aesthetic refinements, and pedestrian safety enhancements – would have an immediate and lasting impact on this historic community if they were to be completed individually. Taken together, these projects will be transformative to the town and region, which serves as the gateway to Great Basin National Park.

The Ely Downtown Infrastructure and Complete Streets Project combines these needed updates to form a comprehensive and sustainable investment in critical infrastructure that would serve both City residents and tens of thousands of annual visitors alike.

Infrastructure improvements of this size and scope require significant community input and engagement to succeed. NDOT has worked closely with the City of Ely's government and citizens to develop a firm understanding of this community's needs in the downtown area and the work required to realize equitable solutions. The advancements in safety, mobility, quality of life, and economic competitiveness that these updates would afford the City's 4,000+ residents and many annual visitors surely make this project a prime candidate for a RAISE Program grant for this coming fiscal year.

The completion of this expansive and multifaceted infrastructure update would have a myriad of positive tangible impacts on the residents of the City of Ely, and it is with these benefits in mind that we ask for you to give full and fair consideration to the NDOT's application. Please reach out to me, or my staff, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator