

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
BUDGET
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of an application submitted jointly by the City of Spokane Valley and Spokane County for the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant* program for the Bigelow-Sullivan Corridor Freight Mobility & Safety Project.

Spokane Valley and Spokane County have joined together to deliver a regionally significant project that would benefit freight movements through the Pacific Northwest and make much needed safety improvements to the corridor. This project would include reconstruction and realignment of a rural freight corridor with narrow and winding two-lane roads that have a deadly crash history. Additionally, it would improve driver sight distance, steepness of grade, provide additional turn lanes, truck climbing lanes, and will widen shoulders. Finally, the project would reconstruct the Sullivan Road-State Route 290 interchange which serves as a gateway for rural freight movements into the greater Spokane-Spokane Valley urban area. Since their application last year, the City has initiated concept design for the Sullivan Road-State Route 290 interchange and the county has constructed two previously included segments of the Bigelow Gulch corridor.

At the west end of the project is Washington State Department of Transportation's North Spokane Corridor (US 395) and the City of Spokane's Northeast Public Development Authority. At the east end of the project is the Spokane Business & Industrial Park, which is one of the largest in the country with 615 acres of property and over 5 million square feet of industrial building space. This corridor is a critical route carrying up to 20% freight through it and links the region while alleviating the congestion of Interstate 90 through the City of Spokane's downtown core. This project would improve mobility and reliability for all users with improved travel times for freight and commuter traffic.

Thank you for your consideration of the City of Spokane Valley and Spokane County's application. Please contact Bree Rabourn in my Seattle, WA office at 206-553-0724 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator