



February 27, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the application submitted by the City of Spokane Valley to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant* program for the Bigelow-Sullivan Corridor Freight Mobility & Safety: Sullivan & Trent Interchange project.

Spokane Valley has been diligently working to deliver a regionally significant project that improves safety and mobility for all users, replaces deteriorating bridges, and benefits freight movements through the Pacific Northwest. RAISE funding is vital to completing the last segment of a regional freight corridor that promotes economic prosperity while creating a safer transportation network for all users.

As the region's transit agency, we recognize the safety and mobility benefits that this project brings to the region. Benefits such as:

- The reconstruction of the Sullivan Road-State Route 290 interchange which serves as a gateway for rural freight movements into the urban area. The corridor is a critical route carrying up to 20% freight, linking the region while alleviating congestion of Interstate 90 through the City of Spokane's downtown core.
- A new shared use pathway on the west side of Sullivan Road and new, wider sidewalks on the east side to promote active transportation.
- Lengthening the existing adjacent Sullivan Road bridge over the BNSF Railway track, providing capacity for the future construction of two new rail lines, totaling four tracks.

We believe the proposed project will increase economic competitiveness, increase mobility, upgrade safety features and improve the quality of life in the area, while supporting the long-range regional transportation strategy. I respectfully request that you give full and fair consideration to the Sullivan & Trent Interchange project application submitted by the City of Spokane Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'E. Susan Meyer'.

E. Susan Meyer  
Chief Executive Officer