



February 08, 2024

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

Re: Strong Support for City of Dubuque's DOT B2E2 RAISE Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing on behalf of the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (DMATS), serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dubuque metro area, to express our strong endorsement for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant application submitted by the City of Dubuque to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

The City of Dubuque is seeking DOT RAISE funding with the aim of directly benefiting low-income residents by establishing crucial connections to economic opportunities and key community assets. With DOT's assistance, Dubuque plans to implement infrastructure improvements that will seamlessly integrate the street network, enhance pedestrian and biking opportunities, bolster safety measures, foster economic development, curtail greenhouse gas emissions, and promote overall equity.

The proposed RAISE funds will play a pivotal role in the construction of a railroad overpass, implementation of complete street enhancements, and development of new shared-use paths, all aimed at supporting economically distressed neighborhoods.

DMATS strongly endorses the initiative to construct the **Building Bridges to Employment and Equity (B2E2)** project, a venture that promises to significantly enhance access to well-paying jobs in the community, particularly benefiting low-income residents within and surrounding the proposed project area.

Notably, DMATS has programmed \$11.24 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) for the construction of the B2E2 project in Federal Fiscal Years 2027 and 2028, acknowledging the substantial regional impact this project is anticipated to have in the DMATS region.

We earnestly request your support for the City of Dubuque's RAISE funding application. Your thoughtful consideration of this grant application is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brad Cavanagh, Chairperson
DMATS Policy Committee