

Concerned Citizens Association of Natchitoches



June 10, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Founder of the Concerned Citizens Association of Natchitoches (CCA), I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Based in the Bailey Heights community of District 4, CCA was founded on the principles of unlocking the potential of all citizens, regardless of socio-economic background. We focus on self-sufficiency and teaching young people to live a healthier and productive life. This project will bring stability to our community by creating a foundation for job growth and improve the safety and mobility of a heavy walking community.

The Concerned Citizens Association of Natchitoches stands in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Johnny Barnes", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr. Johnny Barnes,
Founder and President



Ben D. Johnson

EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Transforming Lives and Building Community

JoAnna Cooper, Executive Director
400 Martin Luther King Drive, Suite A
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457
Email: info@bdjcenter.org
Phone: (318) 460-7460

OFFICERS:

Claire Prymus,
Board President

Jennifer Brossett,
Board Treasurer

Edward Ward,
Board Secretary

DIRECTORS:

Janice Bolton
Neeru Deep
Ron Helaire
Marcus Jones
Lori Wheat

MISSION:

to Build
community
in Natchitoches
and
provide access to
social and
economic
success to all
residents.

June 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Executive Director of The Ben Johnson Educational Center I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

Funding from DOT will allow our city to launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 to Washington Street. I am excited by the possibilities to rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets to enable the safe movement throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

Our program serves young people 17 to 24 who are out of work and out of school. One of their greatest concerns evolves around transportation restraints. Since there is no public transportation in our city, and limited sidewalks, it makes it difficult for them to safely maneuver through the city for their bare necessities. The problem increases tremendously for senior citizens and the disabled who live in and around this community.

We at the Ben Johnson Educational Center stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's proposal.

Sincerely,

"Transforming Lives and Building Communities"



BOM

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the President and CEO of BOM Bank, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

As a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), BOM Bank prioritizes servicing underbanked, low-income, low-wealth and other disadvantaged people and communities. DOT contributing to this project will enhance the neighborhoods of our customers. It is BOM Bank's responsibility to advocate for the betterment of Natchitoches.

We at BOM Bank stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Ken Hale

President & CEO, BOM Bank



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Cane River Creole National Historical Park
PO Box 925
Natchitoches, LA 71457
318-352-0383

IN REPLY REFER TO:

June 17, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Superintendent of Cane River Creole National Historical Park, a unit of the National Park Service within the Department of Interior, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches, Louisiana to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street, through a predominantly African American neighborhood. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care, and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike and Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities for an underserved area within the community. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, increase quality of life, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

This project also has a direct tie to Cane River Creole National Historical Park and the mission of the National Park Service. In February 2021, the park administrative offices and visitor center moved to a location just south of the Texas Street Business Corridor within the heart of the African American community. Safe movement of people, both residents and visitors, through the area and to our new visitor center is critical to successfully tie into the broader community. Connecting this section of the City through viable streets and sidewalks will not only provide a connection to the

Interior Region 2 • South Atlantic-Gulf

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi
North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, U.S. Virgin Islands

park, but also focus on much needed safety and quality of life improvements within an African American neighborhood that has been largely neglected in the past two decades.

On a larger scale, the National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of our nation's parks and special places for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. As such, the agency cooperates with partners to extend the benefits throughout this country and the world. Local governments, tribes, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and individual citizens ask for our help in revitalizing their communities, preserving local history, celebrating local heritage, and creating close-to-home opportunities for kids and families to get outside, be active, and have fun. Since 2019, Cane River Creole National Historical Park has partnered with the City of Natchitoches on neighborhood improvements south of the Texas Street Business Corridor. and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future. The RAISE grant application submitted by City of Natchitoches directly ties into this partnership.

I stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the City's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carrie A. Mardorf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Carrie A. Mardorf
Superintendent

**SENATE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**



431 Jefferson Street
Natchitoches, LA 71457
Email: sen31@legis.la.gov
Phone: (318) 357-3116
Fax: (318) 357-3184

LOUIE BERNARD
STATE SENATOR ~ DISTRICT 31

June 7, 2021

COMMITTEES

Insurance, Vice Chairman
Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture
and Rural Development
Revenue and Fiscal Affairs,
Interim Member
Transportation, Highways
and Public Works

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the State Senator for District 31, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities.

This project access to safe, efficient transportation routes across the city for public services, while easing movements for all residents to places of employment, health care and education providers, as well as commercial and retail centers. The Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will substantially advance equity and access objectives, while aligning with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

I stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louie Bernard".

Louie Bernard
Senate District 31



Where Your Future Is Waiting

June 15, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Dean of Central Louisiana Technical Community College Natchitoches Campus, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by the City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

The goal of our college is to provide skilled training to build a strong workforce for our community. In addition, local revitalization strengthens the case for new business and industry to relocate here as well as growing our existing businesses.

We at CLTCC Natchitoches Campus stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Morrow (handwritten signature)

Laurie Morrow
Campus Dean

ALEXANDRIA MAIN CAMPUS
4311 S. MacArthur Dr.
Alexandria, LA 71302

FERRIDAY CAMPUS
2100 E.E. Wallace Blvd.
P.O. Box 1465
Ferriday, LA 71334

HUEY P. LONG CAMPUS
5960 Hwy. 167 North
P.O. Box 871
Winnfield, LA 71483

LAMAR SALTER CAMPUS
15014 Lake Charles Hwy.
Leesville, LA 71446

NATCHITOCHES CAMPUS
6587 Hwy. 1 Bypass
P.O. Box 657
Natchitoches, LA 71457

OAKDALE CAMPUS
117 Hwy. 1152
Oakdale, LA 71463

ROD BRADY CAMPUS
521 East Bradford St.
P.O. Box 62
Jena, LA 71342

SABINE VALLEY CAMPUS
1255 Fisher Rd.
P.O. Box 790
Many, LA 71449

WARD H. NASH AVOYELLES CAMPUS
508 Choupique St.
P.O. Box 307
Cottonport, LA 71327

(800) 278-9855

www.cltcc.edu

MIKE JOHNSON
4TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON DC OFFICE
568 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515/PHONE: (202) 225-2777

BOSSIER CITY OFFICE
2250 HOSPITAL DRIVE, SUITE 248
BOSSIER CITY, LA 71111/PHONE: (888) 216-3005

NATCHITOCHES OFFICE
PO Box 4989
NATCHITOCHES, LA 71497/PHONE: (318) 951-4316

LEESVILLE OFFICE
3329 UNIVERSITY PARKWAY, BLDG 552, RM 24
LEESVILLE, LA 71446/PHONE: (337) 423-4232



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2021

HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE
VICE CHAIRMAN

ASSISTANT WHIP

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION, CIVIL RIGHTS
AND CIVIL LIBERTIES**
RANKING MEMBER

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
AND THE INTERNET**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMMERCIAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW**

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBER, INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES
AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I have been informed the City of Natchitoches (LA) is applying for funding through the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. I understand the funds will be used to launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" project.

Natchitoches city officials have informed me the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization project will rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor by rehabilitating feeder roads and neighborhood streets in order to enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community. The revitalization project will facilitate access to essential services such as food, health care and education. The project aligns with DOT's prioritization of projects that have a tremendous local and regional impact that will result in good-paying jobs, improved safety, advance access and equity objectives, and address environmental concerns.

I applaud the City of Natchitoches for striving to implement a revitalization project that will greatly improve the infrastructure of their community. I ask that you give full consideration to their proposal. A report of the final decision would be helpful and appreciated. I may be reached through Pam Gras at Pam.Gras@mail.house.gov or 318-840-0309 for any questions. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson
Member of Congress

MJ/pg

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1802

June 28, 2021

Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg –

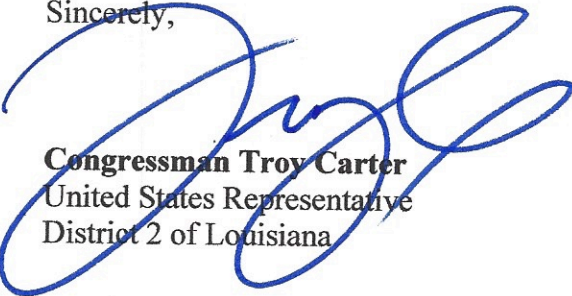
I am writing to you regarding the City of Natchitoches (LA) “Safe Streets Revitalization” Project, which will further economic growth, create greater opportunities for individuals to succeed, local businesses to thrive, and ensure all residents of Natchitoches have an equal opportunity to live their dreams and build a bright future.

This project has been designed within that overall mission and in collaboration with a comprehensive array of community stakeholders. This includes the public and private sectors, health, education, and social service providers, private businesses, and community organizations, nonprofit and faith leaders.

I believe the City’s effort aligns well with the Department’s priorities and its efforts to support projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Accordingly, I encourage you to learn more about this exciting initiative in the coming months. Thank you for your work on behalf of this Administration and the American people.

Sincerely,



Congressman Troy Carter
United States Representative
District 2 of Louisiana



CITY OF NATCHITOCHEES

Oldest Settlement in the Louisiana Purchase

June 04, 2021

Ronnie Williams, Jr.
Mayor

Betty Sawyer-Smith
Councilwoman At Large

Eddie Harrington
Councilman
District 1

Dale Nielsen
Councilman
District 2

Christopher Petite
Councilman
District 3

Rosemary Elie
Councilwoman
District 4

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the District 2 Council Representative of the City of Natchitoches, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities.

This project access to safe, efficient transportation routes across the city for public services, while easing movements for all residents to places of employment, health care and education providers, as well as commercial and retail centers. The Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will substantially advance equity and access objectives, while aligning with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

My constituents and I stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Nielsen



Personal Injury, Bankruptcy, Social Security Disability, Tax Negotiation

C. Rodney Harrington
Attorney at Law

C. Edward "Eddie" Harrington
Attorney at Law

June 28, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the District 1 City Councilman of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities.


This project access to safe, efficient transportation routes across the city for public services, while easing movements for all residents to places of employment, health care and education providers, as well as commercial and retail centers. The Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will substantially advance equity and access objectives, while aligning with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

459 Jefferson Street
P. O. Box 1278
Natchitoches, LA 71458-1278
Phone: 318-352-5900
Fax: 318-352-6400

The grant activities will improve the City's infrastructure by rehabilitating roads and drainage facilities, adding new pavement, new and widened sidewalks, walking paths, marked bike and pedestrian lanes, and other amenities that ensure ADA compliance. The overall goal of the proposed project is to address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

We at the City of Natchitoches stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Yours very truly,



C. Edward Harrington



CITY OF NATCHITOCHEES

Oldest Settlement in the Louisiana Purchase



Ronnie Williams, Jr.
Mayor

June 9, 2021

Betty Sawyer-Smith
Councilwoman At Large

Eddie Harrington
Councilman
District 1

Dale Nielsen
Councilman
District 2

Christopher Petite
Councilman
District 3

Rosemary Elie
Councilwoman
District 4

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Councilman of District 3, I respectfully request consideration and support for the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

My constituents, who make up a large majority of residents benefitting from these improvements, look forward to safe, efficient, and reliable routes to school, work and businesses that serve the community. We stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the City's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Councilman Christopher Petite



CITY OF NATCHITOCHEES

Oldest Settlement in the Louisiana Purchase

Ronnie Williams, Jr.
Mayor

Betty Sawyer-Smith
Councilwoman At Large

Eddie Harrington
Councilman
District 1

Dale Nielsen
Councilman
District 2

Christopher Petite
Councilman
District 3

Rosemary Elie
Councilwoman
District 4

June 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Councilwoman at Large of the City of Natchitoches, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

I believe that with funding support from the federal Department of Transportation and Development, the City of Natchitoches will be able to pursue many planned projects that will help revitalize and enhance our communities for a better way of life for all.

I sincerely hope that you will strongly consider approval of the City of Natchitoches application for the RAISE grant.

Sincerely,


Betty Sawyer Smith



CITY OF NATCHITOCHEES

Oldest Settlement in the Louisiana Purchase



Ronnie Williams, Jr.

Mayor

June 9, 2021

Betty Sawyer-Smith

Councilwoman At Large

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg

Secretary

United States Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, DC 20590

Eddie Harrington

Councilman

District 1

Dale Nielsen

Councilman

District 2

Christopher Petite

Councilman

District 3

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Councilwoman of District 4, I respectfully request consideration and support for the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

Rosemary Elie

Councilwoman

District 4

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

My constituents, who make up a large majority of residents benefitting from these improvements, look forward to safe, efficient, and reliable routes to school, work and businesses that serve the community. We stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the City's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Councilwoman Rosemary Elie

JUNE 14, 2021



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Executive Director of Cane River National Heritage Area, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by the City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care, and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, and rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to the public commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects with a significant local or regional impact, resulting in good-paying jobs, improving safety, and addressing access, equity, and environmental concerns.

From a cultural and heritage tourism perspective, revitalizing the Texas Street Business Corridor and incorporating key components of the Natchitoches Bike and Pedestrian Plan is vital to growing the tourism economy. Visitors enjoy the Cane River National Heritage Area (CRNHA) as a destination for hiking, biking, paddling, walking, and running.

CONTINUED

1115 Washington Street
Natchitoches, LA 71457
www.CaneRiverNHA.org
Rebecca@CaneRiverNHA.org



CONTINUED

Each year, CRNHA supports tours and other events that help the City of Natchitoches draw visitors, shoppers, and diners. The Heritage Area also offers school tours, camps, and other outdoor adventures that help our younger generation get moving and connect with the great outdoors in their own backyards. The scope of the City's Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will address the vast needs identified in our city-wide Master Bike and Pedestrian Plan - from a short walk across the street to a long bike trip following the Cane River National Heritage Trail. The project aims to balance the needs of nonmotorized accessibility and connectivity of students, urban residents, and tourists alike.

We at Cane River National Heritage Area stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

RESPECTFULLY,

Rebecca Blankenbaker
Executive Director

1115 Washington Street
Natchitoches, LA 71457
www.CaneRiverNHA.org
Rebecca@CaneRiverNHA.org



June 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Executive Director of the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission, d/b/a the Natchitoches Convention and Visitors Bureau, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor. The project will address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact,

result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

The Natchitoches CVB works to maximize economic growth through promoting tourism marketing and increase visitation to our city and parish and to lead sustained efforts in tourism and economic development through community engagement and partnerships in our parish.

We stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,



Arlene Gould
Executive Director

NATCHITOCHEs CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

780 Front Street Ste 100, Natchitoches, La 71457

800-259-1714 - www.natchitoches.com



June 16, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Natchitoches Historic District Commission Chairman, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Natchitoches is a City, rich with history and annually hosts visitors from around the world. Because of Natchitoches' heritage, tourism is a major contributor to the economic development of the community and thus the Natchitoches Historic Landmark District. Exploring Natchitoches' historic places by bike touring in safe and welcoming areas would directly impact the City by promoting opportunities for new development and increased safety standards for bikers and pedestrians. The Bike and Pedestrian Plan would have a significant impact.

Incorporating neighborhood streets and feeder streets within the scope of the project will further enhance the "Natchitoches Safe Streets revitalization Project" and enable additional community involvement and support of the Natchitoches Historic District Commission.

The Commission works to preserve, enhance, and protect historic sites and structures within the District and welcomes the revitalization of neighborhoods and the City's Streetscapes. The Raise Grant program would certainly benefit the entire community.

We at the Natchitoches Historic District Commission stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon T. Gahagan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'S'.

Sharon T. Gahagan, Chairman
Natchitoches Historic District Commission



ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH

June 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Pastor and Senior Minister of Abundant Life Church, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

We are so very proud the City has embarked upon this project, which serves many of my parishioners' quality of life needs. With DOT funding, we believe the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project will serve to rehabilitate and revitalize forgotten neighborhoods and provide the foundation for community growth and development through job creation and business investment. With improvements to the Texas Street Business Corridor, as well as new pavement and sidewalks, and bicycle paths for those without motorized transportation, this will enable safe travel throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, and the neighborhood streets targeted for improvement will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

For more than 20 years, our church has served children and families who are impacted by the absence of safe routes, modern infrastructure and proper lighting. Like the DOT, our church's mission is to create opportunities and provide equitable access to the basic services every human deserves. We, at Abundant Life Church, stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Pastor Dr. Ail R. Harris, Jr.
Senior Minister



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

201 North St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457
318-357-9354

June 16, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Pastor of First Baptist Church (North St.), I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

We are so very proud the City has embarked upon this project, which serves many of my parishioners' quality of life needs. With DOT funding, we believe the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project will serve to rehabilitate and revitalize forgotten neighborhoods and provide the foundation for community growth and development through job creation and business investment. With improvements to the Texas Street Business Corridor, as well as new pavement and sidewalks, and bicycle paths for those without motorized transportation, this will enable safe travel throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, and the neighborhood streets targeted for improvement will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

For more than 100 years, our church has served children and families who are impacted by the absence of safe routes, modern infrastructure and proper lighting in the community. Like the DOT, our church's mission is to create opportunities and provide equitable access to the basic services every human deserves. We, at First Baptist Church, stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Pastor Bradlen Holden

Living Word Ministries of Natchitoches La.
1401 Welch St. Natchitoches, La

June 11, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Pastor of Living Word Ministries of Natchitoches, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Living Word Ministries of Natchitoches is a Church ministry in the Bredatown neighborhood on the west side of Natchitoches, La. Our ministry serves the community at large but we particularly conduct outreach in the area that would benefit from RAISE Grant Program. Our mission revolves around a progressive community that offers longevity in the areas of prosperity, safety, education and wholeness.

We at Living Word Ministries of Natchitoches stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,



Altorio Holden Sr.
Pastor

sharpco hotels group
5135 University Parkway Suite 308
Natchitoches, la 71457
sharpcohotels.com

June 11, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the owner/operator of Sharpco Hotels Group, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the city will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Texas Street is one of two major throughfares in Natchitoches, the other being College Ave. Both Texas and College have similar traffic counts, but Texas Street has seen extraordinarily little infrastructure from our local government for decades. Fortunately, that has changed, our new City of Natchitoches administration are very cognizant of the lack of effort in the past and the opportunity of the future for Texas Street. Our hotel company which operates four facilities here in Natchitoches are dependent on the city to be successful. And as a sports adage goes, you are only as good as your weakest link. Natchitoches has a diamond in the rough with Texas Street, millions of dollars will be added to our local economy with the improvements to that corridor. Industrial, commercial, and residential will be impacted with a refresh.

We at Sharpco Hotels Group stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Best Regards,



Jay Sharplin

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



P.O. Box 94004
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9004
(225) 342-7015
GOV.LA.GOV

June 14, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Governor of the Louisiana, I write to you in support of the application submitted by the City of Natchitoches to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

My administration shares national goals for infrastructure and this application will specifically address "*delivering critical infrastructure improvements*" and to "*operate a safe and efficient infrastructure system*" both of which will enhance this community. The project will have a significant local impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

I stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bel Edwards".

John Bel Edwards
Governor



Parish of Natchitoches

**Office of the President
John Richmond**

200 Church Street
Room 210
Post Office Box 799
Natchitoches, LA 71458-0779

Office (318) 352-2714
Fax (318) 357-2208
jrichmond@npgov.org

June 28, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Parish President of Natchitoches Parish Louisiana, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by the City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the Federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities.

This project will provide access to safe, efficient transportation routes across the city for public services, while easing movements for all residents to places of employment, health care and education providers, as well as commercial and retail centers. The Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will substantially advance equity and access objectives, while aligning with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local and regional impact, result in job growth, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

We, at the Natchitoches Parish Government stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Richmond', written in a cursive style.

John Richmond
Natchitoches Parish President



Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
ph: 225-379-1200 | fx: 225-379-1851

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: City of Natchitoches
RAISE Grant Program 2021
Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, I am writing in support of the City of Natchitoches' Safe Streets Revitalization Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from the Louisiana Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate roads and neighborhood streets to enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, providing access to essential services such as food, health care, and education. This project includes implementing components of the Natchitoches Bike and Pedestrian Plan and also aligns with the US Department of Transportation's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D.
Secretary

SDW:DM:ch

C: Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr.
Ms. Nicole S. Gray
Ms. Connie Porter-Betts



Office of Operations
3300 S MACARTHUR DR | ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301
ph: 318-561-5101 | fx: 318-561-5238

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary

United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support, City of Natchitoches Louisiana, RAISE Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the District Administrator of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) District 08 office, I write to you in support of the application submitted by the City of Natchitoches to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

The City of Natchitoches has indicated that funding will be used to implement the recently developed bicycle plan for the City of Natchitoches. This will support the Complete Street policy of LADOTD by allowing a better balanced transportation network which improves the access, mobility, health, safety, and quality of life for all transportation users.

The LADOTD District 08 office also supports the implementation of a roundabout at the intersection of LA 1 Business and Dixie Street. The implementation of the roundabout will provide better movement and safety of all transportation users at this intersection. It would also facilitate the development of property in the area with reduced impact to the existing transportation facilities.

We at LADOTD District 08 support the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Troy Roussell
District 08 Engineer Administrator

TR:JL:pw



Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts

above. beyond.

June 15, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Executive Director of the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts, I write to you in support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

LSMSA serves the State of Louisiana as the Governor's School for Louisiana's academically brightest and talented sophomores, juniors, and seniors. We have 360 students enrolled in a living/learning community setting that allows them to benefit from the opportunities afforded to them by Natchitoches and Northwestern State University. Our students typically do not drive, so they rely on alternative means of transportation to navigate the community—particularly bicycles. This Bike and Pedestrian Plan was endorsed by LSMSA from its inception, and a member of our school staff served on that planning committee.

We at LSMSA overwhelmingly support the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Steven G. Horton, PhD.
Executive Director



City of Natchitoches
Oldest Settlement in the Louisiana Purchase

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Ronnie Williams, Jr.

July 06, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, I am writing to you regarding the City's "Safe Streets Revitalization Project," which will further economic growth, create greater opportunities for individuals to succeed, local businesses to thrive, and ensure all residents of Natchitoches have an equal opportunity to live their dreams and build a bright future. The City is submitting an application to the DOT's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant program to support this critical endeavor.

This project has been strategically considered and designed within that overall mission as the highest priority, and in collaboration with a comprehensive array of community stakeholders. This includes the public and private sectors, health, education, and social service providers, private businesses, community organizations, nonprofit and faith leaders.

The City is strongly committed to this project and we believe it will spur growth and create sustainability for future development in the State's oldest permanent settlement. We are prepared to provide \$3 million in match funding, made available during annual budget approvals and via our general fund, over the proposed implementation schedule included in our application.

I strongly believe the Safe Streets Revitalization project aligns well with the DOT's priorities and its efforts to support projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns. The project will have a transformative impact on our residents, neighborhoods, and businesses.

I appreciate your consideration of our proposal and this letter. Thank you for your work on behalf of this Administration and the American people.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Williams Jr., Mayor



June 10, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

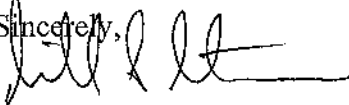
As the President/CEO of Exchange Bank & Trust Company, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

As a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), we are extremely interested in and supportive of the continued growth and revitalization of our great city. While so many small communities are declining, our community has taken steps to ensure long-term success and this grant will assist us in continuing to move forward.

We at Exchange Bank & Trust Company stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,


Michael S. Newton
President & CEO



Moffett Oil Company, Inc.
1424-A Texas Street
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Phone: 318.352.4033 or 888.944.FUEL(3835)
Fax: 888.943.FUEL(3835)

web: www.moffettoil.com

June 23, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 2059

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the President of Moffett Oil Company, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

We at Moffett Oil Company stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Moffett".

10/26/2018

Glenn Moffett
President
Moffett Oil Company, Inc.



June 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Executive Director of Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

The Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance is dedicated to recruiting new business and supporting the resilience and growth of our existing business. The City's proposal, being considered with this application, directly supports improving the resilience of a corridor that has at risk businesses. Better access means improving the economic development environment in a critical part of our community. Transportation is one of the four corner stones of economic and community development, and we support the crucial impact these projects have on our ability to revitalize and grow a critical business corridor.

We at Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance/Natchitoches Community Alliance stands in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Ferdinand".

Michael Ferdinand
Executive Director
Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance

NATCHITOCHES

Historic District Development Commission (NHDDC)
321 Bienville Natchitoches, LA 71457

June 15, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

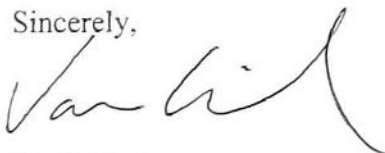
As the Chair of Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

We at NHDDC stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,



Van Erikson
Chair,
Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission
eriksonv@nsula.edu
318-357-4615



June 9th, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Superintendent of Natchitoches Parish Schools, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

This project will help the students, staff and community of the 6 schools in the project area. Not only will it help make these areas safer but will also provide greater access for our stakeholders. Many of our stakeholders in these areas need increased access to the larger communities in order to access essential services such as education. If you choose to award us this grant, you will be a part of immediately improving the lives of our parents, students, and community members.

We at Natchitoches Parish Schools stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Grant Eloi

Superintendent Natchitoches Parish Schools

Natchitoches Regional Medical Center

Inspiring Excellence Everyday

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the CEO of Natchitoches Regional Medical Center (NRMC), I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will address racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

As the sole community provider within a 60-mile radius, NRMC continuously strives to bring new services and physicians to meet the needs of our community. Having a strong infrastructure helps to attract young healthcare professionals to the area. We have worked closely with the city and local university to provide healthy living initiatives like PARC Natchitoches, walking trails and

equipment in several of neighborhood parks, and transportation to assist patients with getting the healthcare they need.

We stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,



Damian K. Soileau, MHA; F.A.C.H.E
Chief Executive Officer



June 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the President of Northwestern State University, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

Many of our students do not have transportation and this project will provide them with safe access to many of the areas that they cannot get to safely due to the conditions of the roads and streets in the neighborhoods surrounding Texas Street.

We at Northwestern State University stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,

Chris Maggio, Ed.D.
President

LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



KENNY COX
(Ret) Lt. Colonel U.S. Army
State Representative ~ District 23

781 Hwy. 494
Natchitoches, LA 71457
Phone: (318) 357-3206
Toll Free: (855) 844-8583
Fax: (318) 357-3208
Email: coxk@legis.la.gov

Commerce
Health and Welfare
Labor and Industrial Relations
House Select Committee on
Homeland Security
Special Committee on Military and
Veterans Affairs

June 16, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As a State Representative in the State of Louisiana, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

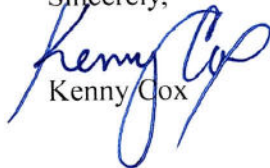
With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities.

This project access to safe, efficient transportation routes across the city for public services, while easing movements for all residents to places of employment, health care and education providers, as well as commercial and retail centers. The Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will substantially advance equity and access objectives, while aligning with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

I stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,


Kenny Cox



July 6th, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the Senior Vice President of Sabine State Bank & Trust, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by City of Natchitoches (LA) to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will address any potential racial disparities in community infrastructure investment, enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, create opportunities for employment, and improve access to essential services such as food, healthcare and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout and the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street and rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets connecting Texas Street, MLK Jr. Drive, Dixie Street, University Parkway and Washington Street. The rehabilitation of the additional streets will increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities. The project aligns with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

This project aligns with Sabine State Bank's mission, which is "Our Goal, Your future Success."

We at Sabine State Bank stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

Sincerely,



John Godfrey
Sr. Vice President

BILL CASSIDY, M.D.
LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
SUITE SH-520
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5824

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
FINANCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

June 17, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Sec. Buttigieg:

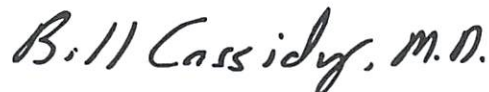
It has recently come to my attention that the City of Natchitoches is applying for funding from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. They are requesting \$23,004,440 to construct part of their "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" project.

The City of Natchitoches plans to use the funds to make improvement to their Texas Street Business Corridor. Specifically, the grant will be used to construct a roundabout at Dixie Street and Texas Street; implement the Natchitoches Bike and Pedestrian Plan; and rehabilitate 30 streets.

As a rural community, they are not planning to make a match; however, the work requested under this grant is only a part of the City's overall plan to improve Texas Street, its feeder roads, and adjacent neighborhood streets between Louisiana Highway 1 South Bypass and Washington Street. Overall, the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization project includes rehabilitation of roads and drainage facilities, new pavement, new and widened sidewalks, walking paths, improved lighting, marked bike and pedestrian lanes, and other amenities to improve ADA compliance.

I appreciate your department's consideration of this application. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator

BC/ME

W. JAY LUNEAU
State Senator
District 29

711 Washington Street
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone (318) 484-2288
Fax (318) 484-2287
luneauj@legis.la.gov



SENATE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

COMMITTEES:
Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, Vice Chairman
Health and Welfare
Judiciary A
Labor and Industrial Relations
Select Committee on Homeland Security
Joint Legislative Committee on
Capital Outlay
Legislative Audit Advisory Council

June 11, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As a State Senator, in the Great State of Louisiana, I write to you in strong support of the application submitted by the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

With funding support from the federal DOT, the City will launch the "Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization" Project to rehabilitate and revitalize the Texas Street Business Corridor from Highway 1 South Bypass to Washington Street. The project will rehabilitate feeder roads and neighborhood streets that enable the safe movement of people and goods throughout the community, enabling access to essential services such as food, health care and education.

The project scope includes the Texas Street Business Corridor Roundabout, the Natchitoches Bike & Pedestrian Plan, as well as rehabilitation of the additional streets to increase accessibility, safety, and drive equitable access to public and commercial services, education, health care, and job opportunities.

This project access to safe, efficient transportation routes across the city for public services, while easing movements for all residents to places of employment, health care and education providers, as well as commercial and retail centers. The Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project will substantially advance equity and access objectives, while aligning with the federal DOT's prioritization of projects that have a significant local or regional impact, result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, and address access, equity, and environmental concerns.

As Louisiana State Senator of District 29, I stand in strong support of the Natchitoches Safe Streets Revitalization Project and the City's application to the RAISE Grant program. Thank you for your consideration of the city's application and this letter.

With the kindest personal regards, I remain.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. Jay Luneau".

W. Jay Luneau
Senator, District 29

WJL/vm