

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2107

April 6, 2022

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

Re: Support for the *Roxbury Resiliency Corridors Project* RAISE Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of Boston's proposed Roxbury Resiliency Corridors project to the U.S. Department of Transportation's RAISE Program. This multi-modal project brings equitable access, resilient design, and improved quality of life to long underinvested Environmental Justice communities still impacted by the scars of urban renewal for highways that were never built.

The three corridors, Melnea Cass Boulevard, Malcolm X Boulevard, and Warren Street, lie at the core of Boston's Roxbury neighborhood at the heart of Black culture in the City of Boston. The corridors serve as important daily lifelines for residents and workers to walk, ride buses, bicycle, and drive to local destinations as well as connect to employment and education opportunities throughout the city. However, these auto-centric corridors are at odds with the needs of the area's residents. They experience high crash rates, have substandard air quality compared to other neighborhoods, and have limited shade-tree canopy. Bus service is also unreliable, resulting in longer commute times.

These three corridors, as currently designed and constructed, fail to provide safe, reliable modes of transportation for the diverse communities that live and travel through here.

The Roxbury Resiliency Corridors Project strives to revitalize Boston's underserved neighborhoods by developing healthier, interconnected, and vibrant neighborhoods. The funding from the RAISE Grant would allow the Roxbury Resiliency Corridors Project to incorporate community input in a redesign of critical thoroughfares in the geographic heart of the City of Boston. This project seeks to create quality living options and safer communities that can positively impact residents' physical and mental well-being.

For these reasons, I submit that the Roxbury Resilient Corridors Project aligns with the grant program priorities and would be a useful investment in RAISE grant funding. Thank you for your consideration.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions, please contact Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley's office at (202) 225-5111.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ayanna S. Pressley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "A" and a stylized "P".

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress