

March 2, 2023

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

RE: Support for the City of Dyersville's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Dyersville, Iowa's request for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant application, for their Enhancing Multimodal Connections in Dyersville project.

BARD Materials supports projects that improve safety, efficiency, and accessibility within communities and throughout the greater nationwide transportation network. The Enhancing Multimodal Connections in Dyersville project does so by constructing new key east-west and north-south connections for roadway, bridge, trail, and sidewalk facilities. Safety improvements include eliminating a hazardous at-grade rail crossing, alleviating traffic delays, and reducing emergency response times in Dyersville. This project also includes many other safety improvements such as completing sidewalk and trail network gaps to keep pedestrians from using the principal arterial roadway as a sidewalk, improved wayfinding, and access to the downtown and industrial areas for all users.

Multimodal accessibility will be addressed through eight new segments of trail connections and improved sidewalk access that are Americans with Disabilities Act compliant. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure will also be installed to add to the expanding network in Iowa and beyond.

This transformative project augments sustainability through the creation of alternative access across two rivers that run through the heart of Dyersville, reducing the impact of routine flood events. It also provides critical connectivity and infrastructure for cyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles fueled by electricity. This project directly supports enhanced connectivity for residents and tourists alike, supporting economic vitality in this rural area. These new connections will be especially important during high-traffic events in Dyersville, such as the annual Major League Baseball game at the Field of Dreams.

The transportation investment in this project will transform the City of Dyersville into a center for economic prosperity, create high-paying jobs, improve the safety of existing transportation systems, create resilient infrastructure, and expand multimodal transportation infrastructure. With the previous local investment into the project, the City is poised to make these improvements to enhance connectivity for all users.

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The implementation of the Enhancing Multimodal Connections in Dyersville project is not possible without the support of U.S. Department of Transportation funding. BARD Materials urges you to invest in multimodal improvements, connectivity, and efficiency in a small, rural Iowa community. Please consider this project for RAISE funding to bring this critical project to fruition in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dan Lawler

Area Manager- BARD Materials

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