

# United States Senate

July 12, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support for the City of East Moline's Greater Downtown Revitalization Project application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program offered by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Funding from this program will enable East Moline to fund improvements to the city's greater downtown area and bring life back into a town that has suffered greatly in the past few decades.

Located in Northwest Illinois, the City of East Moline sits on the Mississippi River with the neighboring municipalities of Moline and Rock Island in Illinois and Davenport and Bettendorf in Iowa. Together, they make up the Quad Cities, which are home to a diverse population of residents and businesses. As regional manufacturing has declined and Rust Belt factories have closed, East Moline has focused on redeveloping local brownfield sites into suitable uses for new businesses, restaurants and music venues. This proposal endeavors to build on that momentum and create a regional, multi-modal oriented destination for businesses, entertainment and living that will improve the City's economy and community activity. The goal for 'complete streets' throughout East Moline's greater downtown area will provide safe, accessible connections for vehicles, pedestrians, buses, trains, boats and bicyclists to the established commercial cores, nearby residential neighborhoods, Mississippi River Trail, and the Mississippi River. It will also dramatically enhance the area and create a cohesive sense of identity to East Moline's "Greater Downtown" area with lighting, landscaping, gateway signs, wayfinding signs, parks and green storm water infrastructure.

As a senator and member of the Committee of Commerce, Science and Transportation, I have made modernizing Illinois' infrastructure one of my top priorities. East Moline's proposal aligns with both my priorities and the core goals of the RAISE program by improving transit safety, fostering regional economic competitiveness and enhancing the quality of life for Illinois residents.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of East Moline's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge you to give their application full and fair consideration. For any questions, please contact my State Director Cameron Joost at (217) 528-6124.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator