

April 8, 2022

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

Date

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission we offer this letter in strong support for the City of Sault Ste. Marie and their RAISE grant application to improve Easterday Avenue.

Easterday Avenue is a City major street that connects Carbide Dock to Interstate I-75 and is a critical link for the transportation system. The current roadway does not meet the city's all-season standards and is past its service life and therefore requires reconstruction to allow for better turning movements and use all year long. The underlying water, sewer and storm water infrastructure is also aging and in need of replacement to better serve the residents and businesses along the route.

Work items included in this 2022 BUILD Capital grant submittal were either not included or underestimated in the 2018 BUILD Grant submittal. Sidewalk on both sides of Easterday Avenue, along the entire route, was added during the project design to improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. Additionally, the estimated amount of sanitary sewer, sanitary service lead, water main, and curb and gutter replacements were understated in the original grant application. The additional \$3.0 million in funding from the USDOT BUILD Grant, if funded, would allow the project to proceed and capitalize on the use of Easterday Avenue and Carbide Dock for the on-going construction of the billion-dollar Soo Locks Improvements project. In addition to pursuing additional USDOT funding, the City is applying for several other federal and state grants to advance these two critical projects for the region, state, and country.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Hagan, CEO

jshagan@eup-planning.org

Chippewa County Administrator's Office 319 Court Street Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783



Kelly J. Church Administrator Cady Bauers Administrative Assistant

> Phone: (906) 635-6330 Fax: (906) 635-6325

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

April 11, 2022

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Sincerely,

Administrator

kchurch@chippewacountymi.gov

Church

906.635.6330



### RYBA MARINE CONSTRUCTION CO.

"An Employee Owned Company"
629 NORTH MAIN STREET ● P. O. BOX 265
CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN 49721-0265
(231) 627-4333 ● FAX (231) 627-4890

US Department of Transportation

Secretary Pete Buttigieg 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

04/11/2022

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Sincerely,

Kristi L. Bristley

**Operations Administrator** 

# Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2201

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am requesting your full and fair consideration of the City of Sault Ste. Marie's application for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program.

The city's project is intended to aid the restoration of Easterday Avenue, a street that links Interstate-75 with the Carbide Dock Port. It should also be noted that the connection of Easterday Avenue to the Carbide Dock provides important access for the community during the ongoing construction at the Soo Locks. This critical connecting road requires structural repairs and also faces aging water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure. The RAISE grant funding requested by this application would cover the cost of this construction and enable pedestrian and cyclist improvements to the curb and gutter system, opening the roadway to residents and businesses in the vicinity.

I strongly encourage you to fully review the City of Sault Ste. Marie's application. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jack Bergman

Member of Congress

Lade Bergone



### LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION

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April 8, 2022

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

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Sincerely,

James H. I. Weakley

President

Lake Carriers' Association

### M.C.M. Marine, Inc.

River & Harbor Improvements Hydraulic Dredging 1065 East Portage Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49763
Phone (906) 632-4316 ⋅ Fax (906) 632-7766
mcmmarine@mcmmarinre.com
www.mcmmarine.com

2000 Ton Drydock Boat Repair & Building

April 11, 2022

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

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Sincerely,

Darwin J. McCoy, President



## Chippewa County **Economic Development Corporation**



chippewacountyedc.com

(906) 495-5631 • Fax (906) 495-5714

airciu.com

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

April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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Sincerely,

Chris Olson, President CCEDC

5019 W Airport Drive, Kincheloe, MI 49788

chrisolson@chippewacountyedc.com

(906) 495-5631



CHARLES MOSER
Member- Drummond Island

BRIAN DECKER Office Manager RICHARD B. TIMMER Chairman - Brimley

ROBERT LAITINEN, P.S.

Manager

KEITH ERICKSON Road Superintendent JEREMY K. GAGNON
Vice Chairman - Sault Ste. Marie

STEPHANIE BOILEAU, PE

3949 S. Mackinac Trail Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Ph: (906) 635-5295 Fax: (906) 635-5297

**US Department of Transportation** 

Secretary Pete Buttigieg 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

04/11/2022

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Sincerely,

Robert Laitinen, Manager Chippewa County Road Commission



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**US Department of Transportation** Secretary Pete Buttigleg 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

04/08/2022

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Sault Sainte

Sault Ste. Marie

Sincerely

Jeff Holt, Executive Director

City of Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation

2345 Meridian Street

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783

jholt@saultcity.com or (906)632-5778

SaultEDC.com **SI** @SSMEDC

2345 Meridian Street Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783

906.635.9131



#### WAYNE A. SCHMIDT

37TH DISTRICT P.O. BOX 30036 LANSING, MI 48909-7536

### THE SENATE STATE OF MICHIGAN

PHONE: (517) 373-2413

TOL1 FREE: (856) 347-8037

FAX: (517) 373-5144

senwschmidt@senate.michigan.gov

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

April 8, 2022

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Sincerely,

1.

Wayne Schmidt State Senator 37<sup>th</sup> District



Aaron A. Payment, EdD, EdS, MEd, MPA

#### Office of the Tribal Chairperson

523 Ashmun Street Sault Ste. Marie Michigan 49783

Phone 906.635.6050

Fax 906-632-6829

Email aaronpayment@saulttribe.net

> FaceBook 'Aaron Payment'

#### April 11, 2022

US Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

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Sincerely.

Dr. Aaron A. Payment, Tribal Chairperson

aren a forment



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

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Sincerely,

Steven M. Briggs Steven M. Briggs (Apr 11, 2022 16:12 CDT)

Steven M. Briggs Vice President Morton Salt, Inc.

(<u>sbriggs@detroitsalt.com</u>) 515.444.3133 (906) 635-5151 · FAX (906) 635-0369

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

April 8, 2022

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Sincerely,

Kathleen VanSloten

Alter Jay Dlater

Owner



April 11, 2022

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

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Sincerely,

Rodney S. Hanley, Ph.D.

President

### United States Senate

April 15, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Sault Ste. Marie and their grant application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

The City of Sault Ste. Marie is requesting funds to make improvements on Easterday Avenue, a major roadway within the city. It connects Interstate I-75 to the Sault Ste. Marie Carbide Dock, where barges traveling through the Soo Locks unload essential commodities. These materials are then loaded onto trucks that deliver goods across our State and region.

This project is of critical importance to the city, as Easterday Avenue does not currently meet the city's all-season standards and is past its service life. This project proposes to reconstruct the road, while also making updates to the underlying water, sewer and storm water infrastructure. These updates will allow for more dependable use all year long which is beneficial to area residents and businesses.

This project will also support the ongoing work to improve the Soo Locks. Upgrades to this important transportation route will benefit operations at the Carbide Dock and play a part in creating a more efficient domestic supply chain.

I am confident that the City of Sault Ste. Marie's application will receive appropriate consideration. If I may be of any further assistance, please contact Doug Lindblom in my Marquette office at (906) 369-3984. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gary C. Peters

**United States Senator**