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**Congress of the United States**  
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
STRATEGIC COMPETITION BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES AND THE  
CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

February 12, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of Cleveland Metroparks's application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for the construction of two key shared-use trail projects, the Slavic Village Downtown Connector – North and Morgana Run/Booth Avenue Extension in the city of Cleveland, Ohio.

The design of these two projects was funded through a 2021 RAISE award for the Cleveland Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning project. To ensure that these projects are designed safely, Cleveland Metroparks and the City of Cleveland are collaborating closely with important community development corporations, key stakeholder agencies, and the surrounding neighborhoods. The Cuyahoga Greenway Partners, including Cleveland Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, and other key agencies, have been working together since 2014 to build this useful and accessible transportation network.

The projects will help residents of consistently underprivileged communities gain access to employment centers, schools, municipal assets, transit, and other opportunities. As a result, these shared-use trails, which are emphasized in the county's Cuyahoga Greenways Plan, are vital to our community. They will improve transit access for those in most need, minimizing the disparities that are present in our community.

In Northeast Ohio, we take great pride in our parks and natural resources. Our parks provide wonderful opportunities for our citizens to connect with nature and each other. Not only do these projects have the ability to benefit their health and increase recreation, but also instill a sense of pride in our county. By allowing citizens to traverse the full span of Cleveland, we can showcase the beauty of this wonderful part of our country.

Thank you for your attention to this important proposal that will positively impact our region. I respectfully request that the Cleveland Metroparks's proposal be given careful review and consideration.

Sincerely,



Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress