TROY A. CARTER

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
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COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

UNDERSERVED, AGRICULTURAL, AND RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1802

October 12, 2022

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

**RE:** Claiborne Avenue Expressway

Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio

Reconnecting Communities Pilot Discretionary Grant Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter of support for the funding application submitted by the Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio.

The Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio is seeking \$2 million under the USDOT's Reconnecting Communities Program to conduct planning activities related to the redevelopment of the I-10 Corridor that divides Treme and the 7th Ward. Though the Alliance has consistently called for the removal of the highway, the Alliance understands it is important to measure the value of that strategy against the others that have been proposed for redevelopment. Their plan for selecting a design strategy for the community-driven development process will be guided by an informed approach that vets all proposed designs with a rubric that considers all alternatives.

I commend the Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio for their commitment to this proposal and ask that you give it full and fair consideration for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Discretionary Grant Program.

506 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202)225-6636

> DISTRICT OFFICES: 650 POYDRAS STREET SUITE 2435 NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130 (504) 288-3777

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Troy A. Carter, Sr. Member of Congress

Sincerely



Office (504) 658-1030 1300 Perdido Street • Suite 2W70 New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

New Orleans City Conneil

October 26th, 2022

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

Re: Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio Reconnecting Communities

Sent via email to: dotexecsec@dot.gov

Dear Secretary, Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio's application for a Reconnecting Communities planning grant. As a community leader who advocates for equitable development, I strongly support the Alliance's efforts to creatively educate all and re-imagine the Claiborne Corridor. I am impressed by their accomplishments, particularly during the last year.

The Alliance has consistently advocated for improvement while remaining mindful of the torchbearers of New Orleans culture.

The Alliance's work is aligned with the federal government's goals of addressing the social, economic and environmental injustices born by communities split apart and devastated by urban highways. The Biden administration's unprecedented investment in infrastructure, your commitment to redress the harms incurred by communities impacted by highways, and the President's own interest in Interstate-10's impact on Treme are undisputed. And the opportunity for community to participate in righting the wrongs of history could not have come at a better time.

I believe in the Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio's plan and look forward to their engagement with community. They are committed to creating a uniquely beautiful, healthy, and economically diverse environment. I eagerly look forward to working with them in the future to champion our neighborhoods and foster high quality incremental development.

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