

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 18, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are pleased to support the City of Rockville's application to the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) program for its Twinbrook Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge project.

Rockville's application seeks a planning grant to develop four alternatives for a grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle crossing of railroad tracks and to prepare a 30 percent design plan for the preferred alternative. Its proposal aims to establish a foundation for the city to continue collaborating with the community to advance this project to implementation.

Twinbrook is a historically disadvantaged community in Rockville. Twinbrook Elementary School is the only Title 1 school in the city, and 70 percent of its students receive free or reduced-price meals. The rail tracks of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority separate the community from the commercial activity and employment sites along Rockville Pike, and residents along Rockville Pike are separated from the parks, trails, and the community center in Twinbrook. The project aims to mitigate the longstanding impacts of existing transportation infrastructure by providing a new, safer connection for pedestrians and bicyclists to nearby community destinations.

We support the efforts of the City of Rockville to provide safer connections for pedestrians and bicyclists and encourage you to give its application your full consideration.

Sincerely,



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Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress