

Please copy and paste the below onto your organization's letterhead

Date

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

RE: RAISE Grant Letter of Support for the Matagorda Rising: Connecting Community to Opportunity Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**, I/we am/are pleased to support the Port of Bay City Authority's application for a U.S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant for the Matagorda Rising: Connecting Community to Opportunity Project in Matagorda, Texas.

Matagorda, traditionally a small and sleepy town, is seeing rapid population growth based on commitments from several large industries to build facilities nearby. This rural, historically disadvantaged, and unincorporated community is largely dependent on agriculture and recreational tourism and is, therefore, unprepared to provide expanded transportation capacity and opportunity for existing residents, new residents, and visitors. **XXX Please provide a few sentences in your own words that also introduce Matagorda and its need for Matagorda Rising. XXX.**

Matagorda Rising will provide the following benefits to the community:

- Safer automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation corridors
- Environmental sustainability with reduced emissions, improved resilience, and habitat restoration
- Increased quality of life through multiuse transportation and recreation facilities that promote nature-based activities and improve public health
- Improved mobility and community connectivity by planning multimodal transportation routes to the project
- Enhanced economic competitiveness and opportunity by creating jobs and attracting tourists
- A state of good repair for a currently deteriorating road
- Partnership and collaboration through planning with organizations in Matagorda to promote safe and efficient transportation, job growth, affordable housing, healthy food options, and recreation
- Innovation through the first electric vehicle charging station in Matagorda and the only charging station within 22 miles

XXX A few sentences on how else Matagorda Rising would benefit you, your organization, and/or the region. Where possible, please focus on safety, quality of life, environmental sustainability, mobility and community connectivity, economic competitiveness and opportunity (including tourism), and partnership and collaboration, because these are the criteria upon which the grant application is based. XXX.

I or NAME OF ORGANIZATION applauds the Port of Bay City Authority and the other Matagorda Rising partners for their initiative to advance the proposed project and recognize its necessity and the positive impact it will have on the historically disadvantaged community. I or NAME OF ORGANIZATION is/am willing to participate in public meetings, the planning process, and other activities to help support Matagorda Rising to provide the most community-beneficial project possible.

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Organization