



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
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Washington, D.C. 20590

City of Bellbrook

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Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express support on behalf of the Bellbrook City Council for the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission's (MVRPC) grant application for the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) program. MVRPC's proposed Toward Zero Safety Action Plan project aims to increase the safety for all road users in the Miami Valley Region, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. By developing a comprehensive transportation safety action plan, our Region will have a tool box of proven strategies targeted on reducing fatalities and crashes.

An analysis of crash-related fatalities over the last decade (2012-2021) shows a 23% increase when comparing the first half of the decade to the second half. Increases for certain types of crashes or population groups are even higher with pedestrian fatalities showing a 36% increase and intersection related fatalities showing a 27% increase. Fatalities involving young drivers (15-25) increased by 25% and fatalities involving older drivers (65+) increased a dramatic 56%. As a result, it is crucial to invest in safety measures to ensure the well-being of all residents. MVRPC's proposed transportation safety plan will provide a data-driven, coordinated approach to identify and prioritize safety improvements across the region, which will ultimately help to reduce the number of traffic-related deaths and serious injuries.

Furthermore, MVRPC's plan will provide a framework for collaboration between rural, suburban, and urban jurisdictions to ensure safety is a priority at all levels of transportation decisions. This will ensure that everyone in the Miami Valley Region, regardless of their location or socioeconomic status, has access to safe transportation options.

As a key stakeholder in this region, we fully support MVRPC's grant application for the SS4A program and urge your full and fair consideration of funding their application. The development and implementation of this plan will not only enhance the safety of our roads but will reduce crashes thereby improving the quality of life for all residents in the Miami Valley Region.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Schweller, Mayor