

November 2, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, West Building, 9th Floor
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support for the City of New Rochelle grant application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's 2021 RAISE Transportation Discretionary Grants Program to construct the LINC Project.

Federal funds for this project would represent an important investment in safety, economic development, and equity. Memorial Highway, the remnant of an antiquated highway project that was never fully constructed, has left an overabundance of infrastructure that delivers traffic from I-95 to local community roads, creating safety and connectivity issues that have depressed economic growth in the densely-populated, predominantly Black and brown Lincoln Avenue neighborhood. The LINC Project will convert the overbuilt, underutilized, and hazardous Memorial Highway into a safe city street with an adjacent linear park providing landscaping, placemaking features, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, crosswalks, and connectivity to the elevated park. Complete streets and traffic circulation improvements will also be made to accommodate the modifications to Memorial Highway. These improvements will help build stronger economic linkages between the Lincoln Avenue corridor and the employment and transit assets of the burgeoning downtown while also attracting new job and development opportunities in the Lincoln Avenue neighborhood.

In addition to contributing its own resources, New Rochelle secured \$10 million for New York State in 2018 through the highly competitive Downtown Revitalization Initiative Program to implement projects that improve the Lincoln Avenue Corridor, including the LINC. However, in order to construct the best and most transformative project for the community, New Rochelle needs partnership and investment from the federal government. I strongly support the City of New Rochelle's application, and the impact this federal grant would have on my constituents. If

you have any questions, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Ashley Torres at ashley.torres@mail.house.gov in my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bowman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress