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August 3, 2021

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

RE: Bigelow Gulch Corridor Safety and Mobility Improvement Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) I am requesting your support of Spokane County's application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program.

Spokane County's Bigelow Gulch/Forker Corridor is a major state and regional freight corridor link to various and numerous industrial and commercial locations in the Greater Spokane Region.

The corridor meets key TIB criteria:

- corrects safety hazards on a corridor that has a history of fatal and serious crashes; and
- provides freight reliability to new and established industrial properties in northeast Spokane and east Spokane County.

TIB is already partnering with Spokane County on one phase of this corridor. Our Board is investing over \$2 million on the Progress Road to Wellesley Avenue phase of this corridor. This represents approximately one fourth of our regional allocation for just this project.

RAISE funding is critical for this corridor: local, regional, and state investments still fall short.

Please support Spokane County's requested nearly \$10 million to complete the Bigelow Gulch/Forker Corridor.

Sincerely,

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Executive Director

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