United States Senate

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RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

September 1, 2024

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

RE: City of Cullman, AL - Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG)

Secretary Buttigieg:

I write again in strong support for the grant application submitted by the City of Cullman for a Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) to relocate and widen the St. Bernard Bridge on U.S. Hwy 278/AL Hwy 69.

The U.S. Department of Transportation Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program's mission is to strengthen supply chains, spur economic development, and improve safety and daily life. The application submitted by the City of Cullman seeks to accomplish these goals by widening the approach to five lanes on U.S. Hwy 278/AL Hwy 69 to provide a safer transition to the bridge and accommodate the increasing traffic in downtown Cullman.

The traffic caused by the outdated bridge results in frequent standstills throughout the day that endanger the community by limiting access to emergency services. The project is also vital for commerce in the rural surrounding counties. These improvements would provide the city and surrounding counties with increased access to schools, local businesses, and safe transit. Furthermore, this investment would directly enhance the capacity and efficiency of the transportation infrastructure and bolster economic activity across the entire region. Continued growth of the city and local economy will be stifled without much-needed improvements to the bridge.

I urge your strong consideration of the application submitted by the City of Cullman for a Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant to relocate and widen the St. Bernard Bridge on U.S. Hwy 278/AL Hwy 69. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Katie Boyd Britt United States Senator