



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING

2051 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

February 28, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We are writing in strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Construction Grant for the Abernethy Green Access project. This is a \$350 million private sector investment to redevelop a 64-acre abandoned landfill in the heart of the City of Oregon City. This is a priority for Oregon City and Clackamas County encourages support for this project.

The Access project is a regionally significant project that will generate jobs and economic development, provide safer transportation facilities for pedestrians, bikes, and vehicles, and contributes to environmental sustainability in the growing historic downtown area of Oregon City. Multimodal improvements are needed to increase safety, further the community's climate goals, and create new and improved connections within a Historically Disadvantaged Community Census Tract.

The transportation improvements the RAISE program will fund, represent a critical phase of the project and will facilitate the rest of the site's redevelopment. Three roads abutting the landfill need to be upgraded and transformed into *Complete Streets* to unlock the full potential of Abernethy Green. Washington Street, Abernethy Road and Redland Road will be transformed from congested and unsafe corridors to safe complete streets that not only improve traffic flow throughout the project area, but also to better protect pedestrians and cyclists.

Thank you for your consideration of this very worthy project.

Sincerely,

Signatures from Clackamas County Board Members

Or

Chair Tootie Smith

