

## Ohio Department of Transportation

Mike DeWine, Governor

Jack Marchbanks, Ph.D., Director

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February 7, 2023

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

Subject: Franklin County Alum Creek Drive Widening RAISE Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Ohio Department of Transportation is pleased to support Franklin County's Alum Creek Drive Widening application for the FY23 RAISE Program. The project will add additional through lanes in both directions and replace the bridges over Big Walnut Creek.

Transportation infrastructure drives the economic engine of any region by providing safe and efficient movement of people and goods from place to place. Alum Creek Drive is a principal arterial for both freight and passenger traffic and provides primary access from I-270 to Rickenbacker International Airport and Rail Intermodal. This project will increase the capacity of the roadway and implement complete street facilities to accommodate additional users of the corridor. The additional capacity will also allow transit routes to continue to operate efficiently which is vital to maintaining a high level of service.

The improvements to the corridor will also continue excellent access to the existing businesses in the corridor as well as support additional development in the region. This means retention of existing jobs and the potential of creating new employment centers.

I respectfully request consideration of this beneficial project for the citizens of Ohio.

Respectfully,

Jack Marchbanks

Jack Marchbanks, Ph.D.

Director