



February 26, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Alum Creek Drive Widening (State Route 317 to Groveport Road)

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Franklin County Engineer's RAISE funding application on the Alum Creek Drive Widening (State Route 317 to Groveport Road) project. This project will improve 2.6 miles of Alum Creek Drive, including a third through lane in each direction to existing Alum Creek Drive. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities will also be installed.

We're an active partner in our region's transportation infrastructure. Not only does it serve the overall vital economic resilience of our city by providing safe and efficient movement of people and goods, it has a measurable impact for the people we serve. 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, which supports the City of Columbus, Franklin County, the State of Ohio, and beyond. This project will increase the capacity of the roadway and implement complete street facilities to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists in the corridor.

For many years our Department has collaborated directly with the Franklin County Engineers on providing significant walking and biking improvements all around our region. The results are paying big dividends for many neighborhoods in Columbus, and we are encouraging your full support of this far-reaching investment.

If you would like any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincere regards,

Bernita A. Reese
Director

