

February 27, 2023

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

RE: Alum Creek Drive Investment (State Route 317 to Groveport Road) in Franklin County, Ohio

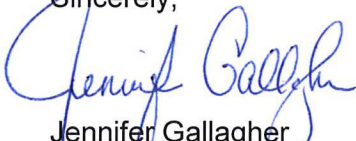
Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are pleased to provide this letter of support for the Franklin County Engineer's federal funding application on the Alum Creek Drive Investment (State Route 317 to Groveport Road) project in Franklin County, Ohio. This project will equitably improve the safety and efficiency of 2.6 miles of Alum Creek Drive by adding another through lane in each direction to existing Alum Creek Drive, a sidewalk on one side, a shared-use-path on the other, and public transit bus stops along both sides. Also, the existing Alum Creek Drive bridges over Big Walnut Creek will be replaced, as they have passed their service capacity due to increased traffic volumes and heavier vehicles in the area.

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 Norfolk Southern Intermodal Terminal, all of which support the City of Columbus, the City of Obetz, the City of Groveport, Franklin County, the State of Ohio, and beyond. This project will sustainably increase the safety and capacity of the roadway and implement complete streets facilities to accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and bus riders along the corridor in an equitable way.

The additional capacity will allow the existing route to continue playing an essential role in the safe, efficient movement of supply chain materials. It will also maintain access to existing businesses and support additional development in the region, which in turn will create new employment centers. If you would like any additional information on how this project will essentially help rebuild America's infrastructure, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Gallagher
Director

