



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

RE: Letter of Support - Salt Lake City RAISE Planning Grant 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Rose Park Community Council, I write in support of Salt Lake City's initiative to address east-west connections across the I-15 and north-south rail corridors, particularly for people walking, biking, and taking transit.

Rose Park is a neighborhood located in the northwest area of Salt Lake City. This community was built to accommodate the growing need for housing after World War II with an emphasis on affordability for veterans. Since 1947, the neighborhood has grown and adapted to the changing demographics of Salt Lake City, and now has one of the most culturally and economically diverse populations in the city. Rose Park is cut off from downtown by railroad tracks and Interstate-15 to our east. These physical transportation barriers present safety issues for students going to the area high school. Students must plan extra time to wait for trains, have to re-route over a mile to the 2 overpasses, or in extreme cases they will cross between the rail cars. A pedestrian bridge is being installed in the area after years of petitioning for a solution.

The Rose Park Community Council sponsors a cleanup of the 600 North overpass. This overpass is over a half mile in length, and spans over I-15 and the railroad tracks. This route is the most direct connection between Rose Park and Fair Park to the Marmalade and West Capitol neighborhoods. Pedestrians and bicyclists risk their safety on this high traffic interchange with residential, large trucks, industrial and commercial vehicles. The west end of the overpass has been the site of at least 3 auto-pedestrian fatalities in the last 15 years. Improved pedestrian safety features were installed after the area community councils petitioned the City and State for action.

These are a sample of many examples of the east-west connections that need to be bridged in our city for more equitable access to our communities.

The Rose Park Community Council supports Salt Lake City's grant application to the federal RAISE program to conduct a comprehensive planning project to make improvements to multiple east-west crossings between 600 North and 2100 South. This work will improve our community relations and provide equitable access to critical parts of the city.

Sincerely,

Kevin S. Parke, Chair  
Rose Park Community Council