

JORDAN MEADOWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Salt Lake City

October 20, 2022

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

RE: Letter of Support – Salt Lake City Reconnecting Communities

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Jordan Meadows 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.

Our community would benefit immensely from better, safer, and more equitable connections to the east side of our city. The east-west connections in the city right now are lacking and - due to safety, time, family constraints, and more - nearly impossible unless a person has access to a vehicle (which is often a constraint itself for our neighborhood). Any expansion of the east-west connections would be helpful to our community members and businesses, especially connections that prioritize active transportation - walking, biking, and public transit. Not only could this benefit physical and mental health by spending more time outdoors, being active, better access to east-west active transportation connections could also have a substantial impact on air quality - which is significantly worse on the west side of the city. Our community would appreciate better connection and transit options to help break down the historical east/west divide in our city, and make our transit options safer.

I support Salt Lake City's grant application to the Reconnecting Communities 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.

Sincerely,

India Nielsen Barfuss
Member; Former Acting President
Jordan Meadows Community Council