



April 12, 2022

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 Building Salt Lake, 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.

There isn't a more profound divide in Salt Lake City than the one posed by the train and Interstate corridor - it separates people, neighborhoods, ideas, cultures and commerce.

Waiting for trains to pass in order to cross the city is archaic, and if I might indulge in hyperbole, barbaric.

The safety and convenience sacrifices Salt Lake City residents make on a daily basis can be remedied by initiatives like the Rio Grande Plan. The Plan also promises to lift train transport in the Wasatch Front area significantly.

A restoration of the Rio Grande terminal, and integration of city, metro, regional, and national network rail networks would be a huge boon to the region's environmental and economic sustainability prospects.

BuildingSaltLake.com is a newsite that reports on urban real estate development in the Salt Lake City region. We are facts-first, values-based journalism.

We support 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 immensely.

Best Regards,
Luke Garrott,
Publisher and Operating Partner