



October 8, 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 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 hurts the ability of people to connect across differences in the city.

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 news site 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 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 immensely.

Best Regards,  
Luke Garrott,

Publisher and Operating Partner