

October 25, 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 Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

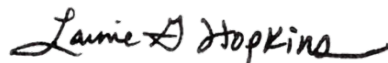
On behalf of Shelter the Homeless, I write in support of Salt Lake City's initiative to address east-west connections across the I-15 and north-south rail corridors, particularly for people walking, biking, and taking transit.

Shelter the Homeless is a nonprofit 501c3 that provides safe, clean, and secure facilities, meals and transportation for individuals experiencing homelessness in our state, at one of the new Homeless Resource Centers in Salt Lake County. These resource centers provide shelter and supportive services to approximately 5,000 people per year. The three Homeless Resource Centers utilize a "scattered site" model whereby several nonprofit partners coordinate efforts to provide "wrap-around" programming to homeless individuals in smaller shelter facilities.

This initiative directly addresses the need for mobility and equity in connection to our clients. This will facilitate more transportation opportunities for our clients to much needed services and resources that they need daily. It also provides these individuals and families with safe and sustainable transportation since their primary mode of transportation is walking and public transit.

I 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.

Sincerely,



Laurie Hopkins
Executive Director, Shelter the Homeless