

APPENDIX A: LETTERS OF SUPPORT

FY21 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)
Planning Grant Request
Cleveland Metroparks

The proposed project is supported by elected officials, communities, public agencies, non-profit organizations, and area businesses. Please find the attached Letters of Support representing:

United State Senate – Senator Sherrod Brown
United State Senate – Senator Rob Portman
United States House of Representatives, 14th District – David Joyce
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency – Executive Director Grace Gallucci
Ohio Department of Transportation – Director Jack Marchbanks

Cleveland Mayor – Frank G. Jackson
Cleveland City Council President – Kevin J. Kelley
Cleveland City Councilman – Anthony Brancatelli
Cleveland City Councilman – Michael D. Polensek
Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works
Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
Euclid, City of
Garfield Heights, City of
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
Highland Heights, City of
Lyndhurst, City of
Richmond Heights, City of
South Euclid, City of

Andreoli Restoration
Bike Cleveland
Burton Bell Carr Development Corporation
Campus District
Catholic Cemeteries Association Calvary Cemetery
Catholic Diocese of Cleveland
Chagrin River Watershed Partners
City Club of Cleveland, The
Cleveland Foundation
Cleveland Heights Transportation Advisory Council
Cleveland Hiking Club
Cleveland Indians
Cleveland State University
Cleveland State University, College of Sciences & Health Professions
Cleveland State University, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs
Community Assessment Treatment Services
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Cuyahoga Community College
Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District
Destination Cleveland
Globe Sewing Machine
Greater Cleveland Partnership
Greater Collinwood
Heights Bicycle Coalition
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Monroe Tool
Morabito Trucking
Nature Conservancy, The
Paran Management
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Slavic Village Development Corporation
Third Federal Savings & Loan
Trust for Public Land, The
Union Miles Development Corporation
University Circle, Inc.
University Settlement
Urban Land Institute - Cleveland
West Creek Conservancy
Western Reserve Land Conservancy

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
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BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FINANCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

July 12, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write to draw your attention to the grant submission by the Cleveland Metroparks for funding in the FY21 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program.

The RAISE grant will be used for planning four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. The support in the planning phase is essential for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future. These improvements have the potential to improve the quality of life for the residents in and around Cuyahoga County and will better the economic strength of the region.

The four projects are the Slavic Village Downtown Connector North, Morgana Run Booth Ave. Extension, Iron Court Opportunity Corridor Connector, and Euclid Creek Greenway North. All four projects are important for the region and are priorities in the county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan, as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

As Ohio, the country, and the world strive to create a better environment and economy for today and tomorrow, it is important that we uplift efforts such as the Cleveland Metroparks proposed trail projects. The benefits of this project will support expanding the growth of sustainable options in Cuyahoga County and in the State of Ohio. Please give this request your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 6, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write to bring to your attention the competitive application submitted by the Cleveland Metroparks for funding in the FY21 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program.

I understand that the Cleveland Metroparks, in collaboration with the Cuyahoga Greenways Partners, Cuyahoga County, the city of Cleveland, and other key agencies, seeks funding for several projects that they believe will connect neighborhoods in poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities. Specifically, funding would develop full construction documents for two projects, and advance another two projects through the feasibility stage. These projects are priorities in the Cuyahoga County Greenways Plan, as they advance connections for transportation options for residents that need it the most.

Assistance from your agency will allow Cleveland Metroparks and its collaboration partners to move forward with their projects in an effort improve accessible transportation to Cleveland area residents.

Please give all due consideration to this request. If there are any questions, please contact my Grants Coordinator, Kristy Ramey, at (614) 469-6774. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rob Portman
United States Senator



DAVID P. JOYCE
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
14TH DISTRICT OF OHIO

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing today in support of the Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio.

According to the Cleveland Metroparks, the projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities. The planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in the county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

This RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. These collaborative efforts will be a benefit to the community.

I realize you will be receiving many grant applications this year and the process is very competitive, but I ask that you give to Cleveland Metroparks' application full and fair consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress



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Matthew L. Spronz, P.E., PMP, Director of Capital Projects, City of Cleveland
Ron Young, Lake County Commissioner

Ex Officio Members:
Kurt Prinic, District Chief, Northeast District Office, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Farzan M. Ahmed, P.E., Executive Director, Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission

Executive Committee Members:
Grace Giffucci, NOACA Executive Director

July 9, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 RAISE Discretionary Grant: Regional Planning Grants Sponsored by the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks, and City of Lorain

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the below listed planning grant applications submitted for funding consideration through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program.

The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the transportation and environmental planning agency that represents state, county, city, village, and township officials in Greater Cleveland. NOACA is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina counties.

These requests for planning grants are in line with the US DOT's focus on equity in federal infrastructure investments. Each of these projects will lead to improved access to key destinations for underrepresented and underserved environmental justice areas and directly support NOACA's goals to build a sustainable, multimodal transportation system that enhances quality of life for the region's residents and visitors.

For these reasons, NOACA supports these planning grant requests. Contingent upon the obligation of RAISE grant funding to the project, NOACA will amend the planning grants to its Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to allow for expeditious implementation.

City of Cleveland – State Street Bridge

The planning grant application seeks funding to initiate preliminary engineering and environmental engineering for a new bridge as the long-term solution for the replacement of the existing Willow Avenue Vertical Lift Bridge, which is nearing the end of its useful life and requires major rehabilitation or replacement. The Willow Avenue Lift Bridge, in addition to being a key regional connection for truck traffic, serves as the connector for the Cleveland Metroparks' Lake Link Trail. It is listed in NOACA's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for emergency repairs and to support the trail connection. Also in the TIP is the rehabilitation of the truck loop used to access the Willow Lift Bridge.

The new State Street Bridge will provide reliable access for all modes of transportation, while implementing measures to mitigate the effects of industrial uses upon captive adjoining residents and increasing numbers of recreational users. The project also includes improving the truck route leading to the new

bridge, which borders along Lakeview Terrace, a public housing complex constructed in the 1930s and owned by the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA). The project will alleviate air quality by reducing truck travel lengths and idling times, and by constructing roadside barriers. The project will seek to mitigate noise and traffic congestion by exploring new technologies.

Cleveland Metroparks – Cuyahoga Greenways

The planning grant application seeks funding to position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and moving the remaining two through the feasibility stage. This critical support in the project development process is needed to ready these regionally significant projects to move forward to construction in the near future.

This project is a direct result of efforts of the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks and Cuyahoga County to advance identified priorities from the Cuyahoga Greenways Plan to build out a connected and effective active transportation network throughout the city and county. NOACA is an active member of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners, a consortium of governmental organizations and nonprofits that also includes Cleveland Metroparks, which have been working collaboratively since 2014 to advance trails and bikeways in the region. The projects in this application work together to better connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

City of Lorain – E.36th Street Corridor

The planning grant application seeks funding to evaluate required improvements along the E. 36th Street Corridor and will develop a set of construction drawings as part of the design effort. This project will reduce travel times, improve connectivity, provide increased walking and cycling options, and reduce the impacts of flooding along E.36th Street corridor, a critical and underserved area.

The Lorain “36th Street Improvement Project” has the ability to connect an economically challenged, minority South Lorain neighborhood with multimodal corridor improvements that will provide safer transportation, new access to public bus transit, and pedestrian and cycling connections for the first time, as well as green infrastructure for sustainable stormwater management and the reduction of flooding in this neighborhood.

Respectfully,



Grace Gallucci
Executive Director and CEO

GG/r/9003s



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mike DeWine, Governor

Jack Marchbanks, Ph.D., Director

1980 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223

614-466-7170

transportation.ohio.gov

July 9, 2021

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

RE: Trail RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the city of Cleveland. The projects in this application work together to better connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

The planning application seeks to position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and moving the remaining two through the feasibility stage. This critical support in the project development process is needed to ready these regionally significant projects to move forward to construction in the near future.

This RAISE planning application is a direct result of efforts of the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks and Cuyahoga County to advance identified priorities from the Cuyahoga Greenways Plan to build out a connected and effective active transportation network throughout the city and county. ODOT District 12 is an active member of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners, a consortium of governmental organizations and nonprofits that also includes Cleveland Metroparks, that has been working collaboratively since 2014 to advance trails and bikeways in the region.

ODOT appreciates the importance of these projects to the city of Cleveland and to advance the Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact this project will have on the city of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact this project will have on Northeast Ohio.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Jack Marchbanks".

Jack Marchbanks, Ph.D.
Director

Excellence in Government

ODOT is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of Services



City of Cleveland
Frank G. Jackson, Mayor

Office of the Mayor
Cleveland City Hall
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 202
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
216.664.3990 • Fax: 216.664.2815
www.clevelandohio.gov

July 9, 2021

The Honorable Secretary Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for Trail Planning in the City of Cleveland. The projects in this application work together to better connect neighborhoods to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

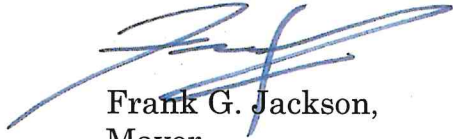
The planning application seeks to position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and moving the remaining two through the feasibility stage for future development.

This RAISE planning application is a direct result of efforts of the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks and Cuyahoga County to advance identified priorities from the Cuyahoga Greenways Plan to build out a connected and effective active transportation network throughout the city and county. The City of Cleveland is an active member of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners, a consortium of governmental organizations and nonprofits that also includes Cleveland Metroparks that has been working collaboratively since 2014 to advance trails and bikeways in the region.

The City of Cleveland appreciates the importance of these projects to the city and looks forward to working with Cleveland Metroparks throughout the design and engineering process. Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact this project will have on the city of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio.

If you have any questions for the City of Cleveland, or if you require additional information, please contact Valarie J. McCall at vmccall@clevelandohio.gov, or 216.664.3544 (o) or 216.857.7360 (m).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank G. Jackson', written over a horizontal line.

Frank G. Jackson,
Mayor



Kevin J. Kelley COUNCIL MEMBER, WARD 13 • COUNCIL PRESIDENT

COMMITTEES: Finance - Chair • Rules - Chair
Mayor's Appointments • Operations

July 12, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at kkelley@clevelandcitycouncilman.org.

Sincerely,



Anthony Brancatelli COUNCIL MEMBER, WARD 12

COMMITTEES: Development, Planning & Sustainability - *Chair* • Finance • Municipal Services & Properties • Utilities

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland, and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at 216-664-4223 or ABrancatelli@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony Brancatelli", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anthony Brancatelli
Councilman, Ward 12



CITY OF CLEVELAND

Office of the Council

www.clevelandcitycouncil.org

Michael D. Polensek COUNCIL MEMBER, WARD 8

COMMITTEES: Safety - Vice Chair • Utilities • Rules

July 12, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland MetroParks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As the Councilman representing the City of Cleveland's 8th Ward, I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland MetroParks' application to the **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)** grant program for trail planning in my community of the City of Cleveland as well as the neighboring community of Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide **Cuyahoga Greenways Plan** as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes the Cleveland MetroParks, Cuyahoga County, the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at my office at (216) 664-4236, via my cell phone at (216) 857-7363 or via email at mpolensek@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

Sincerely yours,
Michael D. Polensek

Michael D. Polensek
Councilman, Ward 8

City Hall 601 Lakeside Avenue N. E., Room 220, Cleveland, OH 44114 • **Phone** (216) 664-4236 • **Fax** (216) 664-3837

Email mpolensek@clevelandcitycouncil.org



Cuyahoga County
Together We Thrive

Department of Public Works

July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most. Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works partners with the Cleveland Metroparks to help facilitate and build several of their trail projects. We would continue to partner in that same spirit on these projects!

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at mdever@cuyahogacounty.us or 216-348-3867.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Dever, MPA
Cuyahoga County
Director of Public Works
2079 East Ninth Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44115



County Planning

CUYAHOGA COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

2079 EAST 9TH ST, 5-300
CLEVELAND, OH 44115

216.443.3700
COUNTYPLANNING.US

June 30, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the project feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan, developed by our office in collaboration with several local partners. These projects advance vital connections and transportation options for residents who need it most, especially those without cars.

This RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which our agency leads and includes Metroparks, the City of Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, we have been working to build out this useful and accessible multi-modal transportation network to provide and safe and equitable access for our residents.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request. Should you any questions about this project or require any additional information, please contact me at 216-443-3720 or mcierbiej@cuyahogacounty.us.

Sincerely,

Mary Cierebiej, AICP

Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission



585 EAST 222ND STREET, EUCLID, OHIO 44123-2099

Kirsten Holzheimer Gail, Mayor

Phone: 216-289-2751

khgail@cityofeuclid.com

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Euclid is a first-ring suburb that is home to a diverse resident base and strong industrial/ manufacturing corridor – and is committed to building on our assets and strengthening our community! Our innovative lakefront public access trail provides a great example of the powerful impact of trails and improving public access in an aging community. We know that accessible trail connections can strengthen a community in so many ways and we are excited about the connections that can be made through these projects. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Connector is of particular importance to our community because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get between the nearby and heavily used Euclid Creek Reservation and Lake Erie through a commercial and industrial corridor of jobs and retail.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at khgail@cityofeuclid.com or 216-289-2751.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirsten Holzheimer Gail". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light green rectangular background.

Kirsten Holzheimer Gail
Mayor



The City of Garfield Heights

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support for Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four identified trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

As mayor of Garfield Heights, a member of the First Suburbs Consortium in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, I recognize how important these projects are for our region. They are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Morgana Run Booth Ave. Extension and Slavic Village Downtown Connector are of particular importance to the Garfield Heights community because they will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources as well as the Garfield Park Reservation and Mill Creek Falls, two valuable recreation opportunities in our neighborhood.

We are proponents of collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Cleveland Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, municipal members of the First Suburbs Consortium, the city of Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. We certainly appreciate the support and benefits Garfield Heights receives through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and I sincerely hope you see the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at mburke@garfieldhts.org or 216-475-1100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Burke".

Matt Burke
Mayor



Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

1240 West 6th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1302
Phone: 216-566-5100
riderta.com

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing expressing the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most. One of the proposed trails, the Slavic Village Connector, will be adjacent to our main rail transit corridor with access to two rail stations and three rail lines.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes GCRTA, Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, City of Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at 216-356-3102.

Sincerely,

Floun'say R. Caver, Ph.D.
Acting General Manager, Chief Executive Officer



Chuck Brunello, Jr.
Mayor/Safety Director

07/09/2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The City of Highland Heights is a northeast suburb with an excellent balance of residential neighborhoods, green space, and businesses. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Connector would provide a safe access to the trail system improving our community by allowing our residents a healthy recreation and transportation option.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland, and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at cbrunello@highlandhts.com or 440-461-2440.

Sincerely,

Mayor Chuck Brunello Jr.
City of Highland Heights
Mayor/Safety Director

Patrick A. Ward
Mayor



5301 MAYFIELD ROAD
LYNDHURST, OHIO 44124
(440) 442-5777
FAX (440) 442-5812
wardp@lyndhurst-oh.com

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to offer our enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

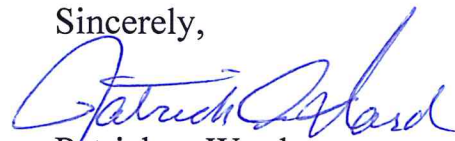
Communities in our built-out region have been working collaboratively to craft a plan that enhances the connectivity of our residents to their work, social and recreation activities no matter which of our communities they live. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Connector is of particular importance to our organization because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get between the nearby and heavily used Euclid Creek Reservation

and Lake Erie through a connected commercial and industrial corridor of jobs and retail.

We value this collaboration, and the RAISE Planning Application represents the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes the Cleveland Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me by email to wardp@lyndhurst-oh.com or direct by phone to 440.473.5103.

Sincerely,



Patrick a. Ward,
Mayor



David H. Roche, Mayor
26789 Highland Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143-1429
P: 216.486.2474 F: 216.383.6320
richmondheightsohio.org

July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The City of Richmond Heights is a Cleveland suburb adjacent to the City of Euclid and the 345-acre Metroparks Euclid Creek Reservation. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Connector is of particular importance to Richmond Heights because it will create transportation options for our residents to travel between the nearby Euclid Creek Reservation and Lake Erie through a commercial and industrial corridor of jobs and retail establishments.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our community receives through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio.

Sincerely,

David H. Roche
Mayor



COME TOGETHER & THRIVE

Georgine Welo, Mayor

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Connector is of particular importance to the City of South Euclid because it will create transportation options for our residents to get between the nearby and heavily used Euclid Creek Reservation and Lake Erie through a commercial and industrial corridor of jobs and retail.

We are proud to have the Euclid Creek Reservation in South Euclid. It is one of our most treasured assets. This new trail will now officially connect the Reservation in South Euclid to the other side of the Reservation along Lake Erie. I know our residents will greatly utilize and appreciate it.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our city and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at (216) 691-4221 or mayor@seuclid.com

Sincerely,

Georgine Welo
Mayor, City of South Euclid

June 30, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590



**RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE
Planning Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to submit my full support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will assuredly connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities; providing progress in our pursuit of greater equitable access and development within our region.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders and neighbors to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources. I have personally biked from our home to places of work, entertainment venues and sports arenas. Allowing me to enjoy these nearby amenities without the high cost of parking and simultaneously enjoying physical exercise and health benefits.

These projects are further near and dear to my family as we both live and work in the impacted areas. We are raising our family and building a business in the Slavic Village Fleet and Broadway areas. We have witnessed first-hand the positive and powerful impact of infrastructure dollars spent for projects in our community. These dollars go to address the need for greater connectivity within the fabric of some of Cleveland's more impoverished areas. Providing connectivity and transforming underutilized parcels into community assets works to both improve safety and market value in low income areas.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for considering this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio region. If you have any questions, please contact me at andreoli restoration@gmail.com 216-799-7771.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Andreoli
Andreoli Restoration, LLC



July 6th, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Bike Cleveland is Greater Cleveland's bicycle and pedestrian advocacy organization. Our work, on behalf of people biking and walking, is focused on connecting our bike network to serve people of all ages, abilities, races, and geographies across Greater Cleveland. These projects will fill crucial gaps in larger regional active transportation network.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Bike Cleveland, the Cleveland Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Agency and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at jacob@bikecleveland.org or 216-273-6863.

Sincerely,

Jacob VanSickle, Executive Director
Bike Cleveland





Bridgeport Place
7201 Kinsman Road, Suite 104
Cleveland, Ohio 44104
216.341.1455 • Fax 216.341.2683
www.bbcdevelopment.org

June 30, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Inc. (BBC) supports Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

BBC is a non-profit community development corporation that serves the Cleveland neighborhoods of Buckeye, Central, and Kinsman. We seek to empower residents and revitalize blighted and underserved communities in these neighborhoods through community planning, real estate development and empowerment services.

Burten Bell Carr Development Inc. aims to support projects and development efforts that provide a diversity of transportation modes and enhances bike mobility & walkability to the Central Kinsman and Greater Buckeye communities. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Iron Court Opportunity Corridor Connector and the Slavic Village Downtown Connector are of particular importance to us because they:

- Create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to Cleveland's downtown and adjacent neighborhoods
- Increase accessibility to Opportunity Corridor current and future businesses
- Establish connectivity to green space planning efforts with Kingsbury Run in the Central Kinsman neighborhood.

Thank you for consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me at jjohnson@bbcdevelopment.org 216-341-1455.

Yours, for a brighter community,

Joy D. Johnson
Executive Director

cc: Sara Byrnes-Maier, Cleveland Metroparks



7/08/2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Campus District, Inc. is the non-profit, community development organization that serves the eastern edge of Cleveland's Downtown. Campus District is home to regional assets like Cleveland State University, Cuyahoga Community College's Metro Campus, and St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. Enhancing connections into Downtown is crucial to the health and success of the residents of Cleveland, especially those living in neighborhoods that have been intentionally segregated from these opportunities through infrastructural redlining. For this reason, these four trail projects are not only functional, but they are reparative and vital.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Iron Court Opportunity Corridor Connector and the Slavic Village Downtown Connector are of particular importance to us because they will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get both to the heart of Cleveland's downtown and to University Circle with employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at mlammon@campusdistrict.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Lammon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Mark Lammon, Executive Director
Campus District, Inc.



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND
Faith, Hope, and Remembrance

10000 Miles Avenue | P.O. Box 605310 | Cleveland, Ohio 44105
(216) 641-7575 | (800) 760-0841 | www.clecem.org

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at alah@clecem.org or 216-276-7655.

Sincerely,

Andrej N. Lah

President

Catholic Cemeteries Association



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to offer my support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

As bishop and shepherd of nearly 700,000 of the faithful in the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, I am pleased to lend my support the Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. In his encyclical, *Laudato Si'* - *On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis appeals to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. I believe this proposed project reflects an essence of the pope's teaching, providing hope for our community while deeply considering our region's future landscape and economic vitality with candor and humility.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for community members to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

I applaud the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, the city of Cleveland and other key local agencies. I appreciate the support and benefits the people of our community receive through these collaborative activities.

Thank you for considering my letter and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at leondarides@dioceseofcleveland.org or 216-696-6525 Ext. 2030.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, JCL
Bishop of Cleveland



PO Box 229
Willoughby, OH 44096

440.975.3870

OUR MEMBERS

Auburn Township
Aurora
Bainbridge Township
Beachwood
Bentleyville
Chagrin Falls
Township
Chagrin Falls Village
Chardon
Chardon Township
Cleveland Metroparks
Eastlake
Gates Mills
Geauga Park District
Hunting Valley
Kirtland
Kirtland Hills
Lake County
Lake Metroparks
Mantua Township
Mayfield Heights
Mayfield Village
Mentor
Moreland Hills
Munson Township
Newbury Township
Orange Village
Pepper Pike
Russell Township
Solon
South Russell
Streetsboro
Waite Hill
Wickliffe
Willoughby
Willoughby Hills
Woodmere

www.crowp.org

July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Chagrin River Watershed Partners works with member communities and park districts, including Cleveland Metroparks, to create and enhance trails that connect people with streams and Lake Erie. We look forward to supporting this project which will enable inclusive and sustainable growth that will lead to healthier and more equitable outcomes for Cuyahoga County residents.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact this project will have on Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at helmer@crowp.org or 440-975-3870 ext. 1001.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather Elmer".

Heather Elmer
Executive Director



THE CITY CLUB OF CLEVELAND

The City Club Board of Directors

Kristen Baird Adams
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July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and, importantly, to green space and recreational assets that are key to individual and population health and well-being.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

As the chief executive of civic leader whose mission is to create conversations of consequence that help democracy thrive, I am keenly aware of the gaps these projects will fill and the needs they will meet. These issues of access and connectedness come up again and again in community dialogues on the full range of issues. When you spoke at a City Club event at the Cuyahoga County Public Library in 2019, you reflected on your own role as a municipal leader, and I know you understand how investments in these can catalyze growth and prosperity for communities in need.

I'd like to say a word, too, about the lead partner in this project—the Cleveland Metroparks. They are everything you want from a public sector agency, truly. In the last decade, they have earned a reputation for the highest quality execution *and completion* of projects and ideas that have long bedeviled our community. These days, in Greater Cleveland, if it's about green space, connectivity, or parklands, and you want to get it done, you get the Metroparks involved.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at dmoulthrop@cityclub.org or by phone at 216.548.6423.

With gratitude,

Dan Moulthrop
Chief Executive Officer



July 2nd 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio.

As the region's community foundation, the Cleveland Foundation supports enhancing access and connections to our parks and greenspaces to catalyze opportunities for recreation, conservation and economic development. The Foundation strongly believes this planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Love, Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives at slove@clevefdn.org or call 216-615-7259.

Sincerely,

Ronn B Richard,
President & CEO, Cleveland Foundation

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, takes seriously its responsibilities to improve transportation options for our region's diverse population. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at roadprintz@gmail.com or 216-534-5302

Sincerely,



Sam Bell, Chair
City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio Transportation Advisory Committee



July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing on behalf of the Cleveland Hiking Club to enthusiastically support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Cleveland Hiking Club is a 102-year old organization whose purpose is to encourage hiking and outdoor recreation for health and recreation. Many of our 1,200 members have been advocates for preservation and conservation of the natural resources we enjoy when we hike. From our earliest years, our members have worked with community leaders on projects that enhance our shared enjoyment of local hiking trails, parks and greenways in the community we love.


All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at peggykoesel@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Peggy Koesel
President, Cleveland Hiking Club



CLEVELAND INDIANS

2401 Ontario Street

Cleveland, Ohio 44115

216.420.4200

July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Cleveland Indians Baseball Club serves our entire community. Accordingly, we routinely support organizations and projects benefitting the community. We believe all four projects are important to our community and should be priorities in our Countywide Greenways plan. Of particular interest to us is the Slavic Village Downtown Corridor because it will provide access for many of our stakeholders to Downtown and all its amenities, including our ballpark. I might also add as an avid cyclist, I have observed how the community has embraced the existing trail network serving many in our community. Extending this network to many more in our community, particularly the neediest among us, will prove beneficial on many levels.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg

July 8, 2021

Page 2

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at pdolan@indians.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Dolan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being the most prominent.

Paul J. Dolan
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

PJD/dk



Office of the President

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Cleveland State University (CSU) sits in the heart of downtown and is accessed by thousands of local residents, some of whom come from underserved and impoverished areas. These four trail projects, which aim to further connect our neighborhoods and city, can help create more transportation options for our existing and future students, as well as faculty and staff. This greater access will allow them to take advantage of the employment and educational opportunities on our urban campus. In addition, as an active community partner, CSU supports these projects as important for our region and as priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts. .

Thank you for your consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at president.sands@csuohio.edu or at (216) 687-3544.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "HMSands". The letters are cursive and connected.

Harlan M. Sands
President



College of Sciences & Health Professions

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to enthusiastically support Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase.

Cleveland State University is an urban university whose mission is to serve our diverse urban community. All 4 projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is particularly important to us our students, many of whom rely on biking or public transportation to get to campus. This paved bike/pedestrian pathway will provide a safer, alternative to riding in city streets – enabling a much more welcoming commute.

The RAISE planning application is a combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at 216 647 2379 or m.bond40@csuohio.edu.

Sincerely,

Meredith Bond, PhD

Dean, College of Sciences and Health Professions

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES & HEALTH PROFESSIONS
2121 Euclid Avenue, SR 353
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2214

Campus Location
2351 Euclid Avenue, SR 353
Cleveland, Ohio

T 216.687.5580
F 216.523.5549
W csuohio.edu/sciences



Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with strong support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will strategically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Federal support in the planning phase is so critical for quickly moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction.


The Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University has long been a participant in the research and planning of trails in this region as an adjunct to core revitalization. It is our considered belief that all four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to our region because it will create transportation options for community residents to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

Collaboration is critical and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes the Metroparks, County, Cleveland, and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at r.anglin@csuohio.edu or 216-687-2174

Sincerely,



Roland V. Anglin
Dean and Professor

MAXINE GOODMAN LEVIN COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS
2121 Euclid Avenue, UR 335
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2214

Campus Location
1717 Euclid Avenue, UR 335
Cleveland, Ohio

T 216.687.2135
F 216.687.9239
W urban.csuohio.edu



**COMMUNITY
ASSESSMENT &
TREATMENT
SERVICES**
RECOVER RECLAIM REBUILD

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

July 8, 2021

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Community Assessment & Treatment Services (CATS) is a behavioral health treatment facility located in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland. We provide residential behavioral health & substance abuse treatment to men & women in Greater Cleveland. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources. The majority of our clients are socioeconomically disadvantaged and will greatly benefit from the increased access this project will provide the Slavic Village neighborhood.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support & benefits CATS and the community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community. If you have any questions, please contact me at rnewma@communityassessment.org or 216-206-5211.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Newman
Community Assessment & Treatment Services

CONSERVANCY

FOR CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

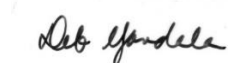
The Conservancy for CVNP enriches people's lives and enhances our region by inspiring use, preservation and support of Cuyahoga Valley National Park. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

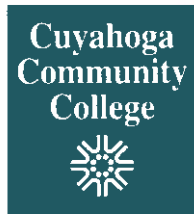
We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at dyandala@forcvnp.org or (330) 657-2909 ext. 107.

Sincerely,



Deb Yandala, CEO
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park



July, 8, 2021

Where futures begin™

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at Claire.rosacco@tri-c.edu or call me at (216) 406-8821.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Claire Rosacco".

Claire Rosacco

V.P. Government Relations &
Community Outreach
Cuyahoga Community College

Government Relations & Community Outreach

District Administrative Services | 700 Carnegie Avenue | Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2878
216-987-4804 | Fax 216-987-4668

Cuyahoga Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



3311 Perkins Avenue, Suite 100
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
216-524-6580 Fax: 216-524-6584
www.cuyahogawcd.org

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction.

Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District was established in 1949. Our mission is to implement programs and practices that protect and restore healthy soil and water resources. Providing additional transportation options, especially for residents who need them the most is extremely important. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, the city of Cleveland, and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network and our staff supports the effort because of the benefits to the communities within the county.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at jrybka@cuyahogawcd.org (216-524-6580).

Sincerely,

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janine Rybka".

Janine Rybka
Director



July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the destination management and marketing organization of Greater Cleveland dba Destination Cleveland, please accept this letter of support for the Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

Destination Cleveland's mission is to drive economic impact and stimulate community vitality for Greater Cleveland through leisure and business travel. We have conducted extensive local and national research to determine how best to continue capitalizing on significant infrastructure investments to ensure their impacts are felt well into the future. The research identified significant opportunities to better connect our investments so that visitors can seamlessly experience all of Cleveland's world-class attractions, neighborhoods, and destinations. The trail planning projects are critical to these efforts and investment in our community & is key as we continue our work to make Cleveland a destination city.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most. We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland, and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network. We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Destination Cleveland offers its full support for this request, and we appreciate your consideration of Cleveland Metroparks' application being selected for funding in 2021. Thank you for supporting Cleveland as a destination city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Gilbert
President & CEO
Destination Cleveland

Peter Baszuk – owner of Globe Sewing Machine Co.
Member of Hyacinth Community Coalition

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

My business would benefit from the proposed projects. Our neighborhood coalition represents the Hyacinth neighborhood of the Slavic Village area in Cleveland Ohio.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at: peter.baszuk@globesew.com or 216 741-2580.

Sincerely,

Peter Baszuk
Globe Sewing Machine Co.
Hyacinth Community Coalition



July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP), I am writing to express my support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The GCP, with more than 12,000 members, is the largest metropolitan chamber of commerce in the nation. We are focused on driving the economic vitality of our region through building a strong and thriving climate for the broad business community, including small businesses, middle-market companies, and large corporations. The projects in this application will connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities, making our region a better place to live, work, or start a business.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Ensuring all residents and businesses can participate in our regional economy will require transforming development, land use, and transportation to better connect people and jobs. All four projects are critical in this endeavor, as they advance connections for transportation options for those who need it most. The RAISE program presents an opportunity to move these projects from the planning to the implementation phase of construction.

When we successfully connect residents to opportunities, employers, and goods and services, we strengthen the foundation of an economy that allows for business growth and raises quality of life. These projects, supported by The Cleveland Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, City of Cleveland, and other key agencies, will be strong investments in our regional infrastructure, ensuring Northeast Ohio is a vibrant place to grow up, visit, or move.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at BShah@gcpartnership.com or (216) 592-2284.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Baiju Shah'.

Baiju Shah
President and CEO
Greater Cleveland Partnership

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

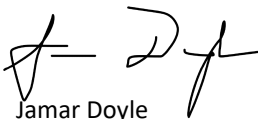
Greater Collinwood Development Corporation's mission is to advance equitable and inclusive economic development, community engagement and neighborhood stabilization & revitalization strategies within the communities we serve. To achieve these goals, GCDC focuses its work in the following key areas: real estate development, housing initiatives, community engagement programs, business support services and neighborhood planning. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Greenway-Phase 2 is of particular importance to our organization because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get between the nearby and heavily used Euclid Creek Reservation and Lake Erie through a commercial and industrial corridor of jobs and retail. Furthermore, many areas of our community lack access to nearby greenspace, so this expansion of the trail network provides an important health and recreation amenity for our community while providing a link to both the Euclid Creek Reservation and Lake Erie to residents who otherwise lack convenient access to these regional assets.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at jdoyle@greatercollinwood.org or 216-383-9772 ext. 203

Sincerely,



Jamar Doyle
Executive Director



July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Heights Bicycle Coalition, a Bike Cleveland chapter, seeks to educate and encourage Heights community members to use bicycles as a sustainable and healthy form of transportation and recreation. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me by email at jbyox49@gmail.com or by phone at 216.206.7114.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yox'.

Jessica Yox
Heights Bicycle Coalition



MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO®

Gregory G. Young, DPM
Vice President, Government Relations
(216) 687-7651
Gregory.Young@MedMutual.com
2060 East Ninth Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1355
MedMutual.com

July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Medical Mutual, one of Ohio's largest insurers, has been an integral part of the Cleveland community since our formation in 1934. We have nearly 3,000 employees, the majority of whom reside in the greater Cleveland metropolitan area. All four of the projects are certainly important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. However, the Slavic Village Downtown Connector is of particular importance to Medical Mutual because it will create environmentally friendly transportation options that will allow our employees, the residents of NE Ohio and visitors to this region to enjoy increased access to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at Greg.Young@MedMutual.com, or via telephone at 216.687.7651.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory Young DPM". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'G' and 'Y'.

Gregory G. Young, DPM
Medical Mutual of Ohio

Monroe Tool & Mfg. Co.

3900 East 93rd St. Cleveland, OH 44105

Ph. 216-883-7360 F. 216-883-0137

email: info@monroetoolmfg.com

7/9/21

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Monroe Tool & Manufacturing Inc. is a third generation family business that has been committed to the near east side of Cleveland for over 75 years. We are a high tech military and aerospace supplier. Increasing livability near our facility will help Monroe expand and offer good high tech jobs in an economically disadvantage area.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Morgana Run Booth Ave. Extension and Slavic Village Downtown Connector are of particular importance to us because they will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources as well as two additional metroparks.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County,

Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at anne@monroetoolmfg.com, 216-883-7360.

Sincerely,



Anne Brosnan
Controller
Co-owner of Monroe Tool & Mfg. Company Inc.



Morabito Enterprises, Inc.

3560 East 55th Street • Cleveland, Ohio 44105 • 216-441-3070 • FAX: 216-641-4737

July/1/2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Morabito Enterprise Companies presently employs 65. Most are Cuyahoga County residence, many live in Cleveland. Other properties owned by us are located in Slavic Village employing an additional 250+ full time employees. These properties amounting to 50+ acres are located in Slavic Village bordering the existing Morgana Run Trail. The leased properties are occupied by publicly traded corporations that find it very appealing having a scenic trail as it's boarding land. From prior lease negotiations I've seen the value of the existing trail and believe an expanded trail will make property even more desirable.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at ben.morabito@sbmtruck.com or 216-441-3070

Sincerely

Ben Morabito, President

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the Cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Nature Conservancy is an international conservation organization which seeks to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. We have operated in Ohio since 1959 and have helped conserve over 65,000 acres of critical lands in Ohio. This includes the protection of riparian corridors and wetlands to protect and restore Ohio watersheds, Lake Erie and forests of the Appalachian foothills. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Cleveland Metroparks, Cuyahoga County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio.

Sincerely,



Amy L. Holtshouse
Director of Conservation
The Nature Conservancy in Ohio



July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing with enthusiastic support for the Cleveland Metroparks' application for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects into the construction and implementation phases.

Paran Management Company is a full-service commercial real estate management owner, developer and service provider that is deeply committed to supporting and advancing economic development to the widest range of people possible in the communities we serve. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in the county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Euclid Creek Connector is of great importance to our operation because we have a shopping center there with many small businesses employing people throughout the region. The project will create needed transportation options for our stakeholders to have opportunities to get between the nearby and the heavily used Euclid Creek Reservation and Lake Erie through a commercial and industrial corridor of jobs and retail.

In Cleveland's Slavic Village, which experienced one of the worst foreclosure rates in the United States in 2008, the project is part of a district program, which is proceeding well at this time. This is positively affecting our local project as well as others in the neighborhood. We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland, and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has worked to build out this useful and accessible network.

We appreciate the support and benefits received by our company and the communities we serve. Thank you for your consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. I would be happy to elaborate on my support for the project and may be reached at jshafran@paranmgt.com or 216-921-5663.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Shafran".

Joseph M. Shafran
Chairman & CEO

REVITALIZING NEIGHBORHOODS



Midwest Regional Office
716 Xenia Ave. Suite 2
Yellow Springs, OH 45387
614.837.6782

www.railstotrails.org
www.TrailLink.com

June 30, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, the Nations largest trail organization, has been working in the greater Cleveland area for more than 25 years. We also have been integral partners within the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners and have seen firsthand how the collaboration happening in Cuyahoga County to make it a safer more livable place for all of its residents is transforming the region. This proposal is a necessary and important next step in continuing the progress in and around Cleveland of making it a 21st century city with transportation options for all its residents.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at eric@railstotrails.org or 614-837-6782.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Oberg", written over a white background.

Eric Oberg
Midwest Regional Director
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy





SLAVIC VILLAGE

5620 Broadway Avenue
Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44127

P 216 429 1182
F 216 429 2632

Cuyahoga County Planning Commission June 30, 2021
2079 East 9th Street, Suite 5-300
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear grant committee,

The potential impact of RAISE funds in our neighborhood of Slavic Village is massive. Two decades of trail development and neighborhood planning have primed three projects to become a permanent part of our community trail network. The Morgana Run Trail Extension, Iron Court/Opportunity Corridor connection and Slavic Village Downtown Connector will each play instrumental roles in connecting not only Slavic Village, but many of the historically marginalized east side neighborhoods of Cleveland.

After years of designing truly exceptional pathways on the near west side, we are thrilled to see the Metroparks, the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County focusing on bridging critical gaps on our side of town. We are working closely with these three and other organizations to plan these trails which each require keen collaboration.

Thank you for considering this proposal and know it will have a tremendous impact on our residents, businesses and the greater Cleveland region.

Sincerely,

Christopher Alvarado
Executive Director
Slavic Village Development

July 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

Headquartered in the inner city neighborhood of Slavic Village since 1938, Third Federal Savings & Loan is a long-time, strong supporter of partners and projects that provide avenues for success for the inner city residents of our neighborhood. Through our partnership with Slavic Village Development Corporation and working with the other collaborators on projects in Slavic Village, we know that access and connection to downtown is vital to the success of our residents and our region as a whole. Through our public/private partnerships, we have developed Trailside, a former brownfield site, into several bustling residential streets lined with single-family homes located on the Morgana Trail. Your support through the RAISE grant would go a long way to providing both the access and connection needed for both the current and new residents of our neighborhood.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is very important to us because it will create transportation options for the residents in our neighborhood to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our company and community receives through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at Sharon.Posner@thirdfederal.com, or 216-429-5014.

Sincerely,

Sharon Posner
Third Federal





1250 Old River Rd.
Suite 202
Cleveland, OH
44113
T: 216.928.7518
www.tpl.org

July 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Please accept this letter of support for Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio.

The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other complementary recreational spaces such as parks and passive greenspaces.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

As a participating member of the CGP, The Trust for Public Land (TPL) welcomes the opportunity to lend our support to this planning effort as it directly aligns with our organizational mission to create parks and protect land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.

TPL believes continued investment in our existing trail network can help Cleveland and Cuyahoga County realize the full extent of our recreational asset potential, and we are motivated to help achieve this potential by working collaboratively to address infill at critical gaps and connection points, enabling our local network to span across regional Northeast Ohio.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact this project will have on Northeast Ohio.



If you have any questions, please contact me at:
Email: sean.terry@tpl.org and Phone: 216.928.7518 x110.

Sincerely,

1250 Old River Rd.
Suite 202
Cleveland, OH
44113
T: 216.928.7518
www.tpl.org

Sean Terry
Acting Ohio State Director | Ohio Parks for People Program Director

June 30, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590



RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Union Miles Development Corporation (UMDC) emerged as a full service community development corporation through a coalition of concerned citizens committed to improving quality of life across their neighborhood. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in the Union Miles service area through community engagement, housing and economic development.

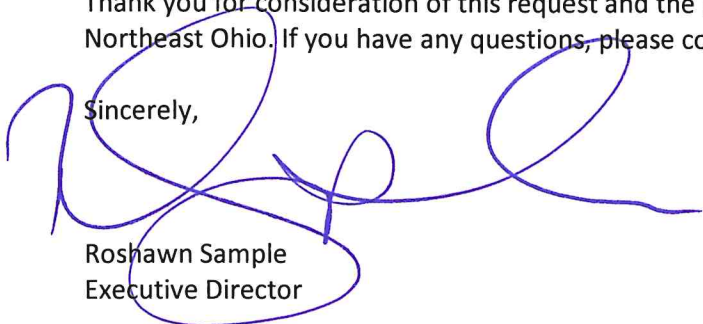
All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Morgana Run Booth Ave. Extension and Slavic Village Downtown Connector are of particular importance to us because they will create transportation options for our stakeholders to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown with its employment, educational, government services and entertainment resources as well as two additional Metroparks.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Cleveland Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at roshawns@unionmiles.org or 216-341-0757.

Sincerely,



Roshawn Sample
Executive Director

9250 Miles Park Avenue * Cleveland, Ohio 44105-5151

*P: 216-341-0757 * www.unionmiles.org * F: 216-341-0226*



July 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing on behalf of University Circle Inc. (UCI) to share our strong support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will connect neighborhoods facing persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

University Circle Inc. is the community service corporation responsible for developing, serving, and advocating for University Circle - Cleveland's center of culture, healing, and learning. A strong network of trails linking University Circle to surrounding neighborhoods and the broader region is critically important to advance our vision of a vibrant and complete neighborhood without borders. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan, as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most. This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at 216-225-8450 or Chris.Ronayne@universitycircle.org.

Sincerely,

Chris Ronayne
President

UNIVERSITY CIRCLE INC

Development Service Advocacy

10831 Magnolia Drive Cleveland, OH 44106-1887
P 216.791.3900 F 216.791-3935 www.universitycircle.org

4800 Broadway Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44127
216.641.8948 (Phone)
216.641.7971 (Fax)
www.universitysettlement.net



Serving the Broadway/Slavic Village Community Since 1926

Board Officers

July 7, 2021

John T. Kocsis
President

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary

Cynthia Connolly
Vice President

U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE

Brandon Morris, CPA
Treasurer

Washington, D.C. 20590

Martin Hale
Secretary

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Board Members

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Mayia Allen, BSW, MSW
Quovada Bass
Marlena Boyce
Steve R. Dominish III
Shailaja Dunn, MBA, MPH
JoZeff W. Gebolys, Esq.
Pastor Richard Gibson
Hon. Emily Hagan
Joshua Ingraham, CEC
Brian J. King
David Margolius, MD
Andrew Martin
Stephanie Mercado, Esq.
Carrie Miller
Anna Maria Motta
Wendy Regoecki, PhD
Priscilla Shields
Tamera Stires, MA, PC
Scott Villani
Tony Williams
Stephen B. Zinn, MD

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

University Settlement's mission truly encapsulates the purpose of the organization: *to provide individuals and those we serve with the resources by which they can learn, grow, and thrive*. Our services focus on helping youth, seniors, families, and community residents identify and overcome barriers of poverty to reach their highest potential. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan. The Slavic Village Downtown Connector is a huge opportunity for this community, by create transportation options for our clients and other community members to get to the heart of Cleveland's downtown they will be able to have more access to employment, educational, government services, and entertainment resources.

Broadway Rising Capital Campaign

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

Marc Stefanski
Honorary Co-Chair

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts. Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at epike@universitysettlement.net or at 216-931-6210.

J. David Heller
Honorary Co-Chair

Cynthia Connolly
Martin Hale
Ira Kaplan
Ethan Karp, PhD
Michelle Karp
David Margolius, MD
Stephanie Mercado, Esq.
Carrie Miller
Anna Maria Motta
Joel Ratner
Scott Villani

Sincerely,

Earl Pike
Executive Director



United Way of
Greater Cleveland





P.O. Box 110416
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

216.755.4061
Cleveland@uli.org

Cleveland.uli.org

June 29, 2021

Steve Ross
CBRE, Inc.
District Council Chair

Mackenzie Makepeace
RMS Corporations
Governance Chair &
Immediate Past District Council Chair

Cathryn Greenwald
Thompson Hine LLP
Chair of Mission Advancement

Kristina Fronczek (Cottage), CPA
RSM US LLP
Treasurer

Eileen McConville
Weston Inc.
Sponsorship Chair

Paul Beegan
Beegan Architectural Design
Regional Product Council Chair

Zoe Adams
NRP Group
Women's Leadership Initiative Chair

Jennifer Beer
Walter Haverfield LLP
Women's Leadership Initiative Chair

Liesel Schmader
Allegro Realty
Young Leader Chair

Ali Karolczak
Redwood Living
Young Leader Chair

Rob Weeks
R-Weeks Consulting
Outreach Chair

Anthony Whitfield
Fairfax Renaissance Development
Corporation
Outreach Chair

Kirstyn Wildey
McDonald Hopkins LLC
Membership Chair

Dave Mader
Chicago Title
Membership Chair

Erin Ryan
Rycon Construction, Inc.
Programs Chair

Jack Newton
GBX Group
Programs Chair

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Urban Land Institute (ULI) Cleveland is an organization of practicing land use professionals and community leaders, founded to share information and experience, showcase new projects and examine trends and innovation in the entire region of Northeast Ohio. ULI represents the best practices of planning and land use. As a non-profit and nonpartisan organization, ULI has long been recognized as one of America's most respected and widely quoted sources of objective information on urban planning, growth and development.

All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.



P.O. Box 110416
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

216.755.4061
Cleveland@uli.org

Cleveland.uli.org

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at Cleveland@uli.org or 216-755-4061.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Ross'.

Steve Ross
Urban Land Institute Cleveland
District Council Chair



July 2, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 347113
Cleveland, OH 44134
T: 216-749-3720
F: 216-749-3730

Office Location
7381 Camelot Drive
Parma, OH 44134

www.westcreek.org

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

West Creek Conservancy has initiated and completed a variety of land conservation, trail/greenway, and habitat restoration projects, all in an effort to protect our region's natural resources as well as provide equitable access to such spaces. All four projects are important for our region and are priorities in our county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northeast Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at dschafer@westcreek.org or 440-915-2940.

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Derek Schafer".

Derek Schafer
Executive Director



Western Reserve Land Conservancy

land • people • community

07/01/2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Cleveland Metroparks' RAISE Planning Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing with enthusiastic support of Cleveland Metroparks' application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for trail planning in the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. The projects in this application will synergistically connect neighborhoods in areas of persistent poverty to job centers, schools, civic assets, and other opportunities.

This planning work will position four priority trail projects for implementation by developing full construction documents for two projects and advancing the other two through the feasibility stage. Your support in the planning phase is so critical for moving these projects to the implementation phase of construction in the near future.

The Western Reserve Land Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit land conservation organization dedicated to providing the people of Northern Ohio with essential natural assets through land conservation and restoration. One of our core objectives is connecting people of the region to the outdoor spaces that are so critical to the human experience. All four trail projects are important for our region and are priorities in the county-wide Cuyahoga Greenways Plan as they advance connections for transportation options for residents who need it most.

We value collaboration and this RAISE planning application is the combined effort of the Cuyahoga Greenway Partners (CGP), which includes Metroparks, the County, Cleveland and other key agencies. Since 2014, the CGP has been working to build out this useful and accessible transportation network.

We appreciate the support and benefits our organization and community receive through these collaborative efforts.

Thank you for consideration of this request and the impact these projects will have on our community and Northern Ohio. If you have any questions, please contact me at aczayka@wrlandconservancy.org or 440-813-4664.

Sincerely,

Alex Czayka
Sr. VP for Conservation Transactions
Western Reserve Land Conservancy