



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

February 27, 2023

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

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the State of Rhode Island, I write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity" construction project application. The application seeks \$25 Million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 Million.

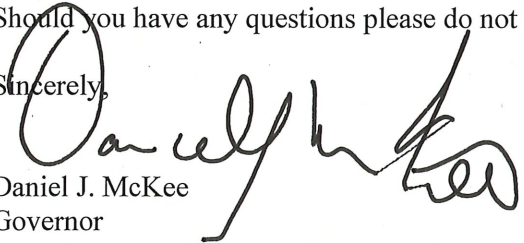
This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

Among the improvements laid out in the application are multimodal upgrades that advance the goals of the state Bicycle Mobility Plan and Transit Master Plan, safety work that mitigates challenges on the current Post Road loop ramps, reducing future maintenance needs by decommissioning two bridges along Route 37 and targeting group opportunities to encourage economic development.

Because we must seize this window of opportunity to rebuild this critical transportation infrastructure, I enthusiastically support RIDOT's RAISE Construction Grant Application and look forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure in our state today.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Daniel J. McKee
Governor



February 27, 2023

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

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), I write in support of RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE grant application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity" project.

This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 and I-295 in Cranston and Warwick for 8 bridges with treatments ranging from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects RI Route 2 and US Route 1, RIDOT and RIPTA have spoken about potential considerations to be made to improve multimodal uses within the immediate areas of those intersecting roadways.

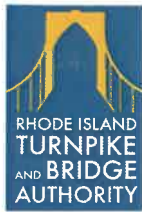
Amongst these involve the improvement of traffic signal infrastructure that will be able to accommodate the inclusion of transit signal priority (TSP) systems that will help enhance the reliability of transit services on these roadways. Both RIPTA and RIDOT have discussed this project as an opportunity to advance goals set forth in *Transit Forward RI 2040*, our state's transit master plan. The intersecting roadways have been identified to be part of two potential high-capacity transit corridors that could support either BRT or LRT service and the introduction of improved traffic movement infrastructure will support those future services and those bus services we run today. Additionally, we are happy to hear that they are redesigning the ramps at the eastern end of Route 37 to open up economic and housing opportunities that could be supported by transit long-term.

RIPTA encourages USDOT to consider RIDOT's application and if they are successful, we will work collaboratively with them in ensuring that this project progresses multimodal travel in this part of the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Avedisian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott Avedisian, Chief Executive Officer



Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority
P.O. Box 437 | Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835-0437

February 24, 2023

Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC, 20590

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority ("RITBA"), I offer support for RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity" construction project application. The application seeks \$25 million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 million.

This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

The improvements laid out in the application include multimodal upgrades that advance the goals of the state Bicycle Mobility Plan and Transit Master Plan, safety work that mitigates challenges on the current Post Road loop ramps, reduced future maintenance needs achieved by decommissioning two bridges along Route 37, and targeted group opportunities to encourage economic development.

Since RITBA is also pursuing a RAISE grant for another critical project, specifically, the rehabilitation of the 94-year-old Mount Hope Bridge, RITBA appreciates the urgency of the need for the funding sought by RIDOT for the Route 37 project. We hope that both RIDOT and RITBA will have the opportunity to rebuild critical components of Rhode Island's transportation infrastructure.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lori Caron Silveira", is written over a circular blue stamp.

LORI CARON SILVEIRA
Executive Director
Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Rhode Island

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

February 23, 2023

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity,"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Rhode Island ("ACEC-RI") I write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity," construction project application. The application seeks \$25 Million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 Million.

This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

Among the improvements laid out in the application are multimodal upgrades that advance the goals of the state Bicycle Mobility Plan and Transit Master Plan, safety work that mitigates challenges on the current Post Road loop ramps, reducing future maintenance needs by decommissioning two bridges along Route 37 and targeting group opportunities to encourage economic development.

Because we must seize this window of opportunity to rebuild this critical transportation infrastructure, ACEC-RI enthusiastically support RIDOT's RAISE Construction Grant Application and look forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure in our state today.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dorothy S. Davison,
Executive Director

55 Cottrell Road, Saunderstown, RI 02874
401-663-4838
<https://www.acec.org/rhode-island>



February 24, 2023

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Revens, Revens, St. Pierre & Wyllie

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

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application:
"Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity,"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce Inc. I write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity," construction project application. The application seeks \$25 Million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 Million.

This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

Among the improvements laid out in the application are multimodal upgrades that advance the goals of the state Bicycle Mobility Plan and Transit Master Plan, safety work that mitigates challenges on the current Post Road loop ramps, reducing future maintenance needs by decommissioning two bridges along Route 37 and targeting group opportunities to encourage economic development.

Because we must seize this window of opportunity to rebuild this critical transportation infrastructure, the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce Inc. enthusiastically supports RIDOT's RAISE Construction Grant Application and looks forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure in our state today.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lauren E.I. Slocum, IOM
President

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER



CITY OF WARWICK

FRANK J. PICOZZI
MAYOR

February 23, 2023

Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC, 20590

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity,"

Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the City of Warwick, I write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity," construction project application. The application seeks \$25 Million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 Million.

This project addresses critical asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning, which will enhance circulation for Warwick's residents and people commuting to the city. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

Among the improvements laid out in the application are multimodal upgrades that advance the goals of the state Bicycle Mobility Plan and Transit Master Plan, safety work that mitigates challenges on the current Post Road loop ramps, reducing future maintenance needs by decommissioning two bridge along Route 37 and targeting group opportunities to encourage economic development.

The City of Warwick ardently supports RIDOT's RAISE Construction Grant Application and we look forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure both for our city and for the state of Rhode Island.

Respectfully,

Frank J. Picozzi
Mayor, City of Warwick



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Division of Statewide Planning
235 Promenade Street - Suite 230
Providence, RI 02908



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

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Division of Statewide Planning who serves as staff to the State Planning Council, the MPO offers its support for RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity," construction project application. The application seeks \$25 Million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 Million.

This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

Among the improvements laid out in the application are multimodal upgrades that advance the goals of the state Bicycle Mobility Plan and Transit Master Plan, safety work that mitigates challenges on the current Post Road loop ramps, reducing future maintenance needs by decommissioning two bridges along Route 37 and targeting group opportunities to encourage economic development.

The outlook of the 2023 RAISE Construction Grant application is consistent with the planning goals and objectives outlined in our Long Range Transportation Plan, thus the Division of Statewide Planning stands in support of the initiatives contained within. We must seize this window of opportunity to rebuild this critical transportation infrastructure and we look forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure in our state today.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mason Perrone
Supervising Transportation Planner
Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning

CC: Vincent Flood, RIDSP

Michael F. Sabitoni
President

RHODE ISLAND

Scott Duhamel
Secretary/Treasurer



BUILDING TRADES

February 17, 2023

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

RE: RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Construction Grant Application: "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the 10,000 members and sixteen (16) trade unions that comprise the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council, we write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2023 RAISE Grant Application to advance the "Right-Sizing Route 37 to Improve Community Connectivity," construction project application. The application seeks \$25 Million in RAISE grant support against a total project cost of \$100 Million.

This project addresses asset management and state of good repair needs along Route 37 between I-295 in Cranston, RI and Post Road in Warwick, RI for 8 bridges. The treatments needed range from full replacement to decommissioning. Where Route 37 intersects with Route 2 New London Avenue and Route 1 Post Road, considerations are being made to improve multimodal use of those intersecting roadways within the project footprint.

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Because we must seize this window of opportunity to rebuild this critical transportation infrastructure, the RIBCTC enthusiastically supports this RAISE Grant Application and we

Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council
410 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903
P: (401)-331-9682; F: (401)-861-1480
www.buildingtradesri.com

Hon. Pete Buttigieg
February 17, 2023
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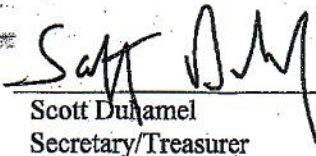
look forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure in our state today.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either of us at either at msabitoni@local271.org or sduhamel@iupat.org.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Sabitoni
President



Scott Duhamel
Secretary/Treasurer

cc: RI Building and Construction Trades Council

Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council
410 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903
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