

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 18, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are pleased to provide this letter of support for the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) application for the Fiscal Year 2023 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program (MPDG) to assist with the National Landing project.

In 2018, following the announcement of an agreement to bring Amazon's new corporate headquarters (HQ2) to Crystal City, the Commonwealth of Virginia identified improvements to Route 1 as one of five transportation projects to be fully or partially funded by the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth's commitment to Amazon is to improve safety, accessibility, and the pedestrian experience crossing Route 1. This grant request will allow Virginia to convert the Route 1 corridor in Arlington into a multimodal urban boulevard that prioritizes pedestrian safety in a walkable environment. VDOT is developing multimodal solutions for Route 1 to meet National Landing's transportation needs with the coming of Amazon and other related developments.

The National Landing will benefit Virginia's state of good repair. The transformation of Route 1 to an urban boulevard includes the removal of three bridge structures from the VDOT inventory, which will reduce long term maintenance costs. Modifications to the I-395 interchange will remove a structurally deficient bridge and avoid future replacement or rehabilitation costs, while also extending the urban boulevard to the north which will contribute to lower speeds.

The project includes a connected pedestrian grid and associated mixed-use development in the area. It increases the accessibility to job centers through the proposed access improvements, which will benefit residents of all income levels. The project will create approximately 6.5 acres of excess right-of-way resulting in high value developable land. It will reduce the need for single-occupancy vehicle trips in favor of environmentally friendly options such as enhanced transit service, walkability, biking routes. The project also includes multiple innovative solutions, such as a progressive design-build strategy and a pilot safety project to implement near-miss crash technology in National Landing.

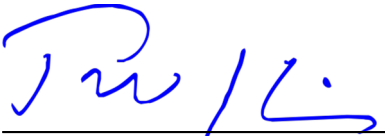
This project satisfies all the merit criteria outlined in the federal grant opportunity, especially the priorities of providing economic, state of good repair, environmental, and equity benefits. This MPDG grant application has been developed to make a strategic request within the maximum allowed federal funding limit with the state funding the remaining cost. VDOT has also worked

with the Governor and Virginia General Assembly to allocate funding sources for the required funding match.

Investment in National Landing will produce significant, measurable benefits to the economy, health, and safety of local citizens. VDOT is fully committed to this project and will readily apply expertise and plans in place to implement the important initiative that is detailed in VDOT's grant application.

We ask that you give this proposal every appropriate consideration.

Sincerely,



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



Abigail Davis Spanberger
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



Elaine G. Luria
Member of Congress