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**CITY OF MARKS**

*"Home of the Mule Train" -1968*

Mayor Joe Shegog, Jr.

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

**RE: FY2022 DOT: Rebuilding American Infrastructure with  
Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Application:  
Quitman County, Mississippi**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As Mayor, and in behalf of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Marks, Mississippi, the county seat in Quitman County, Mississippi, this letter is written in support of the Quitman County 2022 RAISE application for the improvements to the infrastructure on Riverside Road.

This road begins as a street in the City of Marks, running along the Coldwater River, and 1 mile of this road is located within the city limits of Marks.

The road improvements to Riverside Road include 5.3 miles of improved storm drainage inlets, mobilization, and asphalt paving. The improvements to Riverside Road are believed to make a safer route to allow traffic flow impacting Quitman County and the two most popular communities of Marks and Lambert, Mississippi.

Riverside Road is a major thoroughfare connecting both Marks and Lambert to Mississippi Highway 322 and from there to each other. Most of the 5.3 miles is along the Coldwater River which runs parallel and adjacent to the east side of Riverside Road. This road is also subject to annual spring floods. In preparation to prevent flooding over the years, the City and County have worked together to build levees and have invested in pumps, but those efforts have not solved the flooding problem. The Corps of Engineers has jurisdiction over the levees along the river.

Improvements to Riverside Road will have regional economic implications for growth and tourism. Additionally, the safety benefits to the improved infrastructure of this road could serve as an alternative emergency evacuation route for residents of the City of Marks living on the east side of the Canadian National Railroad tracks in the event of a train derailment or terrorism attack.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Marks hope the committee will give every consideration to funding the application of Quitman County, Mississippi for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Shegog, Jr." in a cursive style.

Joe Shegog, Jr.  
Mayor, City of Marks

cc: Velma Benson-Wilson  
Quitman County Economic & Tourism Director  
Quitman County Visitors' Welcome Center  
300 Cherry Street  
Marks, MS 38646

**RESOLUTION**  
**Quitman County Board of Supervisors**  
**Supporting the Application for FY 2022 U.S. Department of Transportation RAISE Funding**

**WHEREAS**, the Quitman County Board of Supervisors has submitted an FY 2022 application to the U.S. Department of Transportation RAISE Grants.gov; and

**WHEREAS**, this project will include improvements to Riverside Road to address prevention of severe annual flooding and drainage issues, which ultimately lead to road closure and property damage; and

**WHEREAS**, the road improvements to Riverside Road include 5.3 miles of improved storm drainage inlets, mobilization, and asphalt paving; and

**WHEREAS**, it is represented to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Marks that such improved Riverside Road would be a safer route to allow traffic flow impacting the two most populated communities of Marks and Lambert, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, that the improvements would also serve as an emergency evacuation route for residents on the east side of Canadian National's railroad; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Marks have been asked by the Board of Supervisors and Ms. Velma Benson-Wilson, the Economic Development Director of Quitman County, Mississippi, to put forth the efforts of the Quitman County Board of Supervisors; and

**WHEREAS**, this application will be prepared and submitted by the County's Economic Development Director on or before the due date of April 14, 2022, and:

**THEREFORE**, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Marks, Mississippi, authorize the submission of a support letter to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Honorable Pete Buttigieg. So resolved and ordered, on this the 12th day of April, 2022.

On motion duly made, seconded and approved by a majority of the members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Marks, the above resolution was adopted, and the Mayor directed to send a letter of support.

So ordered and resolved.



Joe Shegog, Jr.  
Mayor, City of Marks



Shakera McKay  
City Clerk