

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2402

April 8, 2022

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

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

It gives me great pleasure to submit this letter in support of the Quitman County Board of Supervisors' grant application to improve the infrastructure of Riverside Road.

This road is a major thoroughfare connecting the city and town of Marks and Lambert. For most of the 5.3 miles, the Coldwater River runs parallel and adjacent on the east side of Riverside Road. This road is subject to annual spring floods. In preparation to prevent flooding, over the years, levees have been constructed and pumps installed, but these efforts have not solved this problem. The proposed improvements; include upgrading the existing drainage structures and adding additional needed structures. The subgrade will be raised approximately 3 feet and a clay gravel base paved with 3 inches of Hot Mix Asphalt for the surface.

Quitman County is a small rural underserved community with a poverty rate of 35 percent and nationally, it ranks 10th with the lowest medium household income. The improvements to Riverside Road would alleviate future flooding, loss of property, reduce the county's road maintenance expense and most importantly help stimulate economic growth. Therefore, this grant application has my full and complete endorsement for funding.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress

BGT:sj