



HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MAYOR
JIM M. COPPINGER

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

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express the support of Hamilton County for the 2022 RAISE Grant application for the replacement of the Wilcox Boulevard Bridge – River to Ridge Mobility Project. Wilcox Bridge is an important thoroughfare in Hamilton County and an essential connection point for several communities in our community.

Due to the age and condition of the bridge, replacement is a high priority for several community partners, and we are prepared to fully support the City of Chattanooga and the Tennessee Department of Transportation as they work to secure this grant and, ultimately, bring a critical piece of infrastructure for our community online.

I work closely with Mayor Tim Kelly at the City of Chattanooga on a wide range of projects and initiatives, and our strong partnership is one of the cornerstones of our region's success. In that spirit, pending legislative approval, we are committed to supporting the replacement project with a \$100,000 commitment for investments to connect our local communities, through the bridge replacement, with pedestrian walkways to the Chattanooga Riverwalk. The riverwalk has been an essential public partnership and by not only replacing the bridge at Wilcox Boulevard, but also expanding pedestrian access to a key public asset, we are bringing new life to an important part of Hamilton County.

We appreciate being a part of this partnership and look forward to seeing it favorably considered during your review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim M. Coppinger".

Jim Coppinger
Hamilton County Mayor