



Portland Pedestrian Advisory Committee

1120 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 800
Portland, OR 97204

RE: FY 2022 Bridge Investment Program Grants Letter of Support for Portland Bureau of Transportation's Burgard Bridge Resiliency and Multimodal Enhancements Project

August 24, 2022

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Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As the U.S. Department of Transportation considers applications for Bridge Investment Program Grants, the Portland Pedestrian Advisory Committee wishes to convey support for the **Burgard Bridge Resiliency and Multimodal Enhancements Project and the Bridge Investment Program grant application** submitted by the Portland Bureau of Transportation. The Pedestrian Advisory Committee is a group of citizen volunteers charged with providing pedestrian-centered input to the Portland Bureau of Transportation around project designs and other initiatives.

The Burgard Bridge Resiliency and Multimodal Enhancements Project will replace the existing 92-year old viaduct over the Union Pacific Railroad in the St. Johns neighborhood of Portland, Oregon. This bridge provides a critical connection to neighborhood residents, serving freight and people movement using all modes and providing a priority link from the St. Johns Peninsula to other areas of the City. The proposed project will replace the aging and deteriorating structure with a new structure that removes geometric deficiencies, facilitates freight movement (including over-dimensional loads), provides enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities, increases access by underserved communities in the peninsula area, and meets seismic standards to maintain connectivity in the event of an earthquake.

The Pedestrian Advisory Committee fully supports the Portland Bureau of Transportation and this project. The Burgard Bridge Resiliency and Multimodal Enhancements Project will improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of people and freight movement; meet geometric standards; restore a bridge to a state of good repair; enhance multimodal transportation opportunities; and reduce the number of person-miles traveled over bridges in poor condition. We ask that you consider this project for Bridge Investment Program Grant funding.

Sincerely,

Tiel Jackson
Pedestrian Advisory Committee Co-chair

Rebecca Sanders, PhD
Pedestrian Advisory Committee Co-chair