KAIALI'I KAHELE 2ND DISTRICT, HAWAI'I

Washington Office 1205 Longworth Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4906 Fax: (202) 225-4987

> Hawai'i Office 99 Aupuni St. Suite 118 Hilo, HI 96720 (808) 746-6220



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

April 7, 2022

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

Re: County of Kaua'i RAISE Po'ipū Road Safety and Mobility Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg

I am writing to express my support for the fiscal year 2022 RAISE grant application submitted by the County of Kaua'i to improve and enhance Po'ipū Road.

Po'ipū Road is an essential north-south road that connects the town of Koloa and the Po'ipū Resort area. This project supports the County's sustainability goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through mode shift. Additionally, it strengthens equity by facilitating low-income residents, especially in Koloa, to get to work and school by walking, biking, or public transit, thereby reducing personal transportation costs.

Through the RAISE grant program, Poʻipū Road will be a safer street and will enhance mobility choices. This project will construct continuous bike lanes and improved pedestrian crossings on Poʻipū Road through Koloa town, connecting neighborhoods to Koloa's school, shops and services. Within the Poʻipū resort district, continuous sidewalks and bike lanes will be constructed to better facilitate visitor travel between resorts and nearby shops, beaches and services. These sidewalks and bike lanes will also benefit employees who live within walking or biking distance.

In short, this project will enhance access and connectivity for multimodal transportation options to support low-income neighborhoods, students traveling to school, residents moving throughout the area, and tourists visiting the County while fostering economic development. As such, I ask for the fair and full consideration of the County's application within applicable rules and regulations. If you require additional information, please contact my Legislative Director, Kana Smith, at kana.smith@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely

Kaiali'i Kahele Member of Congress