

**Eric A. Knudsen Trust**  
**P.O. Box 160, Koloa, HI 96756**  
**(808) 332-5682**

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg  
US Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington DC 20590

RE: POIPU ROAD SAFETY AND MOBILITY PROJECT - RAISE GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Since 1871 the Eric A. Knudsen Trust has been stewarding more than 3,000 acres of land here on the Island of Kauai. I have the pleasure of serving as the Trust's Executive Trust Manager and as one of its four Trustees. Our lands span from the mountains to the sea and include everything from the core tourism corridor of Poipu Beach, recently recognized once again as the "Best Beach of Hawaii", to providing the biofuel for Kauai's renewable energy plant. The Eric A. Knudsen Trust fully supports the County of Kauai's RAISE application for the Poipu Road Safety and Mobility Project. This project has been a long time in the making and the County has collaborated on the design with property and business owners, including the Eric A. Knudsen Trust, and a broad diversity of local residents from the beginning.

Tourism is Kauai's largest industry, and Koloa-Poipu is Kauai's most important visitor destination. During COVID-19, tourism was brought to a standstill, severely impacting the economy of Kauai and Hawaii. This project will not only provide an improved transportation network for local residents and visitors alike, it will provide a much-needed boost for the island's most important industry.

While tourism will continue to be a vital industry on Kauai, COVID has made it especially clear that we must diversify our economy and create well-paying jobs so that children who grow up on Kauai can stay here and raise their own families. As such, I am working with an incredibly talented and diverse team to develop a data center on Kauai to support advanced technology - technology to support agriculture, tourism, transportation, and other sectors. We are building a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy for Kauai. In addition, I'm working on a private plan to fulfill the County's vision of shifting visitor travel. Instead of renting a car at the airport for the duration of their stay, visitors can take a shuttle from the airport to their destination, walk and bike to the beach and shops, use shuttles, and on occasion, rent or share an electric car at their resort. Implementation of this model links the data center and the Poipu Road Safety and Mobility Project. The data center provides the technology for the transportation model to be smart and efficient; the Poipu Road Safety and Mobility project provides the transportation infrastructure. All of these projects address equity and environmental sustainability.

Co-Trustees

John Horwitz  
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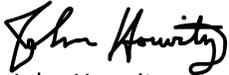
Peter Baldwin  
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George R. Robinson  
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By conscientiously stewarding the lands with the singular purpose of improving our community through science, nature and humanity, Kauai continues to be a phenomenal example of the public and private sector working together to improve the safety, economic vitality, and quality of life for all who visit or live on Kauai.

I hope that the County of Kauai's RAISE application for the Poipu Road Safety and Mobility Project is approved and funded as fully as possible through the Department of Transportation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Horwitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

John Horwitz

Executive Trust Manager and Co-Trustee

Eric A. Knudsen Trust