

March 30, 2022

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

Re: Support for the Williams Road Corridor Plan RAISE Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of CSX Transportation, please note our support for the City of Columbus, Franklin County, and Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) RAISE planning grant application for the Williams Road Corridor Plan.

Williams Road is located adjacent to our largest freight classification yard in Central Ohio, Parsons Yard. The current roadway is a key freight corridor, but significant improvements are required to ensure the roadway can safely support the corridor's projected growth.

This planning grant will also include review of a grade separation over active freight rail lines and the elimination of at-grade, public crossings, achieving national goals established by the USDOT to reduce the overall number of at-grade, public crossings and improving public safety.

We urge your consideration of the application.

Sincerely,

John Patelli Head of Regulatory and Federal Affairs

Sony C. Bellomy

Tony Bellamy Director Public Projects