Congress of the United States Washington, D.C. 20510

September 10, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We write in support of Larimer County's application to the Federal Highway Administration (FHA)'s Wildlife Crossings Program. If awarded, Larimer County, in partnership with Colorado Department of Transportation, will improve segments of US Highway 287 (US 287) with its US 287 Safe Wildlife Movement Project.

With FHA funds, Larimer County will construct a wildlife overpass as well as wildlife fencing at various points between MP 363-382 of US 287. This new infrastructure will support safe wildlife permeability across the highway for multiple species including elk, mule deer, black bear, mountain lions, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn. By including both a dedicated overpass as well as continuous fencing, this Project leverages a layered approach of infrastructure which is expected to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions by at least 80 percent.

We encourage you to give the application submitted by Larimer County your full and fair consideration consistent with all applicable laws and regulations. Thank you for your review, and please notify our offices of any funds awarded.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Bennet

United States Senator

John Hickenlooper United States Senator

Joe Neguse

Member of Congress