ROBERT P. CASEY, JR. PENNSYLVANIA

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 11, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write today in support of the application from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) for a Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning and Demonstration grant from the US Department of Transportation. I urge you to give this application full and fair consideration.

SPC is the transportation planning organization for a ten-county region in Southwestern Pennsylvania that includes both urban, suburban, and rural communities. One of SPC's constituent counties, Allegheny County, is home to Pittsburgh, the second largest city in the Commonwealth and the economic hub of the region.

SPC has told me, however, that Allegheny County struggles with high rates of vehicle crashes and deaths. SPC has also informed me that the county has averaged over 12,000 crashes per year since 2002, and that the number of road fatalities is 5.5 times the national average for a county. To address this, I understand that SPC is hoping to develop a Vision Zero comprehensive Safety Action Plan (SAP) for Allegheny County to identify projects that will make the county's streets safer for all road users

SPC has informed me that it will use the Allegheny County SAP as a pilot before expanding this initiative to all its member counties. This will build on SPC's previous efforts, including its 2020 Regional Transportation Safety Action Plan, to bring increased safety to the entire Southwestern Pennsylvania region.

Thank you in advance for consideration of our views. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with applicable laws, rules and regulations, we also respectfully request that you keep us informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact Senator Casey's staff at (202) 224-6324.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Casey, Jr.

United States Senator