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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1310

December 11th, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write to express my support for the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) application for the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP) Grant Program funding on behalf of the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program. If awarded this grant, it would fund the Rock Island Connection project, known as P2. The P2 project would help build a flyover bridge between Belt Junction and Metra Commuter Rail's Rock Island District (RID) line. Completing this project will help METRA, Chicagoland's commuter rail service, reduce congestion and conflicts between freight and passenger services, as well as help Amtrak improve intercity connectivity.

The Chicagoland area is a passenger and rail hub for the entire United States. The efficiencies resulting from this project will support and enhance the movement of people and consumer goods throughout the nation. The P2 project not only supports broad economic growth, but will benefit neighboring communities with cleaner air, reduced railroad delays, and improved development opportunities.

I am pleased to support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation. I urge your complete and fair consideration of the Illinois Department of Transportation's for the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP) Grant Program. Should you need any further assistance, please contact Jake Kaplan at Jake.Kaplan@mail.house.gov or at (847) 383-4870.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley S. Schneider".

Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress