

February 20, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Purdue University is pleased to support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY23 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase One of the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Section of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, the lead applicant for this grant request and close partner of Purdue.

Purdue has partnered with WREC on long-range planning efforts for enhancements of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County, community activities, grant programs, and outreach efforts since its formation in 2005. WREC's leadership in the development of the regional Wabash River Greenway Corridor Master Plan and subsequent work with regional partners has paved the way for this grant proposal and built excitement for the activities proposed in the RAISE Project.

The RAISE Project's proposed construction of a 4.85 mile subsection of the eight-plus mile North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Section will connect Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue to each other, as well as the Wabash River Greenway, three city parks, two county parks, and Prophetstown State Park with a safe, active transportation route. It will also provide a much needed safe and accessible route for residents and Purdue students living in Lafayette. Presently, our students who walk or bike to campus from Lafayette must use the existing vehicular bridge, which is insufficient and has unprotected pedestrian facilities.

While the Wabash River is an iconic, natural feature in our community, it has long acted as a divider between our communities. The RAISE Project will significantly address this barrier and dramatically increase the accessibility between our communities and to the Wabash River. While doing so it will generate significant direct economic development benefits, creating construction jobs during the development phase and sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 river mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services.

Thank you for your consideration of this important, innovative, regional economic development, and quality of life project for Greater Lafayette and the area surrounding Purdue University. If you would like additional information, please feel free to contact me or WREC's Purdue representative, Ken Sandel, at 765-494-1061 or sandel@purdue.edu.

Sincerely,



Mung Chiang
President

Roscoe H. George Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering



TONY ROSWARSKI, MAYOR

February 22, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

The City of Lafayette strongly supports the Tippecanoe County Area Plan Commission (APC) FY23 RAISE Grant application to construct Phase One (**RAISE Project**) of the North River Road/North 9th Street Active Transportation Section Development Project of the Wabash River Greenway. The APC is the lead applicant for this grant application. USDOT has designated our region as a rural area and a local match is not required, however Tippecanoe County is providing a \$1,400,000 in local match in support of this vital project.

The City of Lafayette is partnering with the City of West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, and the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation, a 501c3 agency which serves as the point agency for planning and implementing enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor regionally, to plan and implement this exciting and essential project. The **RAISE Project** is the first major development project of the five county regional Wabash River Greenway Project.

The regional WRG's proposed regional active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land uses along 90 river miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 233 mile multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and incorporates ecological restoration of the riverine environment as a key component of the WRG development. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with only limited unconnected trails currently existing outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will address significant active transportation infrastructure issues systemically, serve as an economic catalyst, and foster improvement to quality of life at a regional level.

The **RAISE Project** will develop 5.6 miles of the 8+ mile North River Road/North 9th Street Active Transportation Section of the WRG consisting of the rural North River Road and urban N 9th Street subsections.

The **RAISE Project** connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, three city parks, two county parks, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and the Wabash River State Scenic Byway (North River Road), to provide an alternative transportation option for residents and visitors to shop, go to work/school, or pursue outdoor recreation/tourism opportunities. Most importantly, the **RAISE Project** includes a Bike/Pedestrian Bridge crossing the Wabash River to provide a safe active transportation route for the large number of students and university employees, who, daily walk/bike to and from Lafayette and Purdue University.

The WRG, when developed, will provide Greater Lafayette and the State of Indiana with a world class destination outdoor recreation experience, develop a significant and sustainable regional economic driver, and provide essential active transportation infrastructure for our community. The City of Lafayette enthusiastically endorses development of Phase one of the North River Road/North 9th Street Active Transportation section of the WRG. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the first letter.

Tony Roswarski, Mayor
City of Lafayette

TR/III



Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

February 20, 2023

Re: FY23 RAISE Project - Phase One of the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Section of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG)

Dear Mr. Lambert,

The City of West Lafayette supports the Tippecanoe County Area Plan Commission's (APC), FY23 RAISE Program grant application to construct Phase One of the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Section (**RAISE Project**) of the Wabash River Greenway. The City recognizes the **RAISE Project** constructs a vital linkage intersection of the non-motorized transportation system with in West Lafayette, Lafayette, Tippecanoe County and the region.

The City has partnered with the APC, the City of Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, and the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) to plan this project. USDOT has designated Tippecanoe County as a rural area and a local match is not required as a part of this application. Tippecanoe County has however prioritized this project and committed \$1,400,000 in local match.

The **RAISE Project** will construct the final links to connect the two cities, and Purdue University to each other, and to the Wabash River Greenway and its Wabash River Heritage Trail – a National Recreational Trail. The **RAISE Project** will connect three, funded transportation projects that develop WRG Project components that are outside of the **RAISE Project** application scope, consisting of a \$4.9 million, City of West Lafayette Sagamore Parkway (SP) Connector Trail; a \$3.5 million WREC/WRG Pilot Project, funded through a State of Indiana Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Program (READI) - the North River Road Trail Head Project; and a \$2.7 million, WREC/City of Lafayette Sagamore Parkway Connector Trail.

The **RAISE Project** will connect numerous residential, commercial and job centers on both sides of the river including the region's largest employer, Purdue University via safe active transportation infrastructure to facilitate use of alternative transportation, foster a healthy life style, and connect our communities and region.

We appreciate your consideration of Phase One of the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Section of the Wabash River Greenway for award of funding from the RAISE Program.

Sincerely,


John R. Dennis
Mayor
City of West Lafayette

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

February 20, 2023

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) strongly supports the FY23 RAISE Grant Application submitted by the Tippecanoe County Area Plan Commission (APC) to construct the Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway - A 4.85 Sub-Section of the 8+ mile North River Road/N 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Section. WREC is partnering with the APC, Tippecanoe County, the cities of Lafayette, and West Lafayette, and regional partners to plan and develop the Wabash River Greenway.

The regional WRG's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land uses along a 90-river mile section of the historic Wabash River corridor, and develops a 233-mile, active transportation system linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, and tourism destinations. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with limited unconnected trails only, currently existing outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst and improve quality of life for those within the Greenway region.

The **RAISE Project** will develop Phase One of the North River Road/N 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Section of the Wabash River Greenway. The **RAISE Project** connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, five city/county parks, multiple commercial districts, residential areas, job centers, and the Wabash River State Designated Scenic Byway, to provide an active transportation system for residents and visitors to shop, go to work/school, and, or pursue outdoor recreation/tourism opportunities. The WRG, when developed, will provide Greater Lafayette and the State of Indiana with a world class destination trail experience, a significant regional economic development driver, and essential active transportation infrastructure for our region.

The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation enthusiastically supports the development of the Wabash River Greenway and the FY23 RAISE Grant Project. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional project. Please feel free to contact me at slambert@wabashriver.net or 765.420.8505 if you require additional information about the application or this project.

Sincerely,



Stanton Lambert
Executive Director

United States Senate

April 8, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application for building Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

If allocated, this funding will support development of the second phase of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. The Greenway has been at the heart of WREC's mission to enhance the quality of life in the Wabash River Corridor by providing sustainable ways to improve health, recreation, education, economic development, and environmental management since WREC's formation in 2005.

The proposed route winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple employment centers and serves as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region through development of much needed active transportation infrastructure.

The RAISE Project will develop an eight mile section of the active transportation system, connecting Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other, Prophetstown State Park, seven city/county parks, and multiple commerce, residential, and job centers. It will construct active transportation infrastructure in an area totally devoid of it and connect it to the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems.

I respectfully request that you give full and fair consideration to the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's RAISE grant request. If I can provide any further assistance or additional information, please contact my office at 317-822-8240. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mike Braun
United States Senator

April 12, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write in support of a proposal submitted by the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), for the consideration of funding offered through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program.

The Wabash River Greenway develops a 253 mile multi-modal trail system within a five county, 90 mile section of the historic Wabash River corridor. As referenced in WREC's proposal, the funding will develop Phase Two of the Greenway consisting of an 8+ mile looped Active transportation section of the Greenway connecting Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other, Prophetstown State Park, and the Wabash River Greenway. It develops vital active transportation infrastructure in an area currently totally lacking it, and connects it to Lafayette and West Lafayette's existing trail systems, providing essential linkages to commercial areas and associated job centers, as well as seven existing city/county parks, in addition to the afore mentioned Prophetstown State Park.

As this proposal demonstrates a clear public benefit to the residents of Lafayette, and West Lafayette, as well as Purdue University, I know this proposal will receive the serious consideration it deserves, within applicable laws and regulations.

If I can provide you with any additional information, please contact my grants coordinator, Kevin Sulc. He can be reached by email, Kevin_Sulc@young.senate.gov. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Todd Young
United States Senator

Senator Brian Buchanan
Indiana State Senate
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
State House: (800) 382-9467
State House: (317) 234-9441
E-mail: S7@iga.in.gov

Committees:
Tax and Fiscal Policy (RM)
Agriculture
Education and Career Development
Natural Resources

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 4, 2022

Re: RAISE Grant Application: Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop Development Project.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in enthusiastic support for the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop.

WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County, with a long range mission to enhance the corridor in a five county region consisting of Fountain, Warren, Tippecanoe, Carroll, and Cass counties. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County completing comprehensive planning, acquiring strategic properties, conducting environmental assessment/remediation, working on improving Wabash River water quality through its stellar watershed program, and initiating the development phase with its first local riverfront project – construction of a raised walkway the Riverside Promenade in 2020.

WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Corridor Master Plan which develops a 253 mile multi-modal active transportation system in the 90 mile river corridor extending through WREC's five county mission area. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program – READI. Phase 1 consists of construction of five pilot projects, one in each greenway county respectively.

The **RAISE Project**, if funded, will construct **Phase 2 of the WRG, the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop**, the first substantial section of the Greenway to be built. **The Raise Project** constructs active transportation infrastructure in an area

completely devoid of it, and most importantly, connects it to the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems and associated residential, commercial and job centers. The **Raise Project** connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other, the Wabash River Greenway, three city parks, four county parks, and Prophetstown State Park. Currently a safe active transportation route to Prophetstown State Park and the four county parks does not exist, and these popular destinations sites are only accessible by automobile.

The **RAISE Project** also builds on, and brings online projects stemming from the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered with state and local governments which have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the **funded**, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The **RAISE Project** will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.
- A funded, in-progress Tippecanoe County MPO Active Transportation Infrastructure Project. the MPO Project constructs a connector trail connecting the West Lafayette Active transportation System to the US 52/Wabash River Bridge, Lafayette, and the WRG/**RAISE Project**.

Finally, the two main road corridors in the **RAISE Project** are planned for multi-use capability with broad band infrastructure located within the active transportation system's design.

Thank you for your consideration of this important innovative and essential, regional economic development and Quality of Life project, the Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project. Please feel free to contact me if you require additional information regarding my support for the project at 317-232-9400 or Senator.Buchanan@iga.in.gov.

Sincerely,



Brian Buchanan
Indiana State Senator
District 7

Senator Ronnie J. Alting
200 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2785
State House: (800) 382-9467
E-mail: s22@iga.in.gov

Committees:
Public Policy, Chair

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 4, 2022

Re: RAISE Grant Application for the Wabash River Greenway Phase II development Project – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg.

I am writing in enthusiastic support for the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop. WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County, with a long range mission to enhance the corridor in a five county region consisting of Fountain, Warren, Tippecanoe, Carroll, and Cass counties. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County completing comprehensive planning, acquiring strategic properties, conducting environmental assessment/remediation, working on improving Wabash River water quality through its stellar watershed program, and initiating the development phase with its first local riverfront project – construction of a raised walkway the Riverside Promenade in 2020.

WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Corridor Master Plan which develops a 253 mile multi-modal active transportation system in the 90 mile river corridor extending through WREC's five county mission area. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program – READI. Phase 1 consists of construction of five pilot projects, one in each greenway county respectively.

The **RAISE Project**, if funded, will construct Phase 2 of the WRG, the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop, the first substantial section of

the Greenway to be built. The **RAISE Project** constructs active transportation infrastructure in an area completely devoid of it, and most importantly, connects it to the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems and the residential, commercial, and job centers they connect with.

The WRG and the **RAISE Project** specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the Wabash River Greenway Project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five, county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services. A recent Indiana University Study found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent 3 – 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails.

National and In-state studies consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive turn on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them, and National and In-state studies looking at property values have found that proximity to trails directly increases the value of those properties.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project – Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this project, or if you require additional information regarding my support for the project at 317-232-9808 or Senator.Altin@iga.in.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Alting". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Alting
Indiana State Senator
District 22



**STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

SHEILA J. KLINKER
633 KOSSUTH STREET
LAFAYETTE, IN 47905

COMMITTEES:
WAYS AND MEANS
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION

April 10, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

**Re: RAISE Grant Application for Constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway –
The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop Development Project.**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in enthusiastic support for the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop.

WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County, with a long range mission to enhance the corridor in a five county region consisting of Fountain, Warren, Tippecanoe, Carroll, and Cass counties. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County completing comprehensive planning, acquiring strategic properties, conducting environmental assessment/remediation, working on improving Wabash River water quality through its stellar watershed program, and initiating the development phase with its first local riverfront project – construction of a raised walkway the Riverside Promenade in 2020.

WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Corridor Master Plan which develops a 253 mile multi-modal Active Transportation System in the 90 mile river corridor extending through WREC's five county mission area. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program – READI. Phase 1 consists of construction of five pilot projects, one in each greenway county respectively.

The RAISE Project, if funded, will construct Phase 2 of the WRG, the **8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop**. The first substantial section of the Greenway to be built.

The Raise Project constructs active transportation infrastructure in an area completely devoid of it, and most importantly, connects it to the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems and the commercial and job centers they connect with. The Raise Project connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other, the Wabash River Greenway, 7 city/county parks and Prophetstown State Park. Currently there is not a safe active transportation route to these regional outdoor recreation/tourism destinations.

The RAISE Project builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered with state and local governments which have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The **RAISE Project** will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the WRG development project.

Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services.

- A recent Indiana University Study found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent 3 – 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails.
- National and In-state studies assessing the economic value of trails, consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive turn on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them. Other National and In-state studies looking at property values, have found that proximity of a property to a trail directly correlates to an increase in the value of that property.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project: Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Trail Loop Development Project. Please feel free to contact me for additional information regarding my support for this important project at S27@iga.in.gov or (317) 232-9875.

Sincerely,



Sheila Klinker
Indiana State Representative
District 27



STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS CAMPBELL
200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

COMMITTEES:
WAYS AND MEANS
GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY REFORM, RMM
INSURANCE

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 8th, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write to with enthusiastic support for the **Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application** for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop.

WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County, IN. Their long range mission is to enhance the corridor in a five county region consisting of Fountain, Warren, Tippecanoe, Carroll, and Cass counties. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe Co. with projects such as the watershed program and the raised walkway *Riverside Promenade* already completed.

WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Corridor Master Plan which develops a 253 mile multi-modal Active Transportation System in the 90 mile river corridor extending through WREC's five county mission area. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of **Indiana regional economic development program – READI**. Phase 1 consists of construction of five pilot projects, one in each greenway county respectively.

The **RAISE Project**, if funded, will construct Phase 2 of the WRG. An 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop which is the first substantial section of the Greenway to be built. The RAISE Project constructs active transportation infrastructure in an area significantly lacking it, and most importantly, connects it to the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. The RAISE Project connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other and directly connects three city parks, four county parks, and *Prophetstown State Park* to these urban centers. Currently, safe active transportation infrastructure does not exist to connect to the four county parks and *Prophetstown State Park*.



**STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS CAMPBELL
200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

COMMITTEES:
WAYS AND MEANS
GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY REFORM, RMM
INSURANCE

The **RAISE grant project** builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered which have resulted in:

- 1) A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- 2) A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- 3) Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan – READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The RAISE Project will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the development project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, WRG region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services. National and in-state studies consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive return on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them. A recent Indiana University Study supports this finding and found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent 3 – 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails. Other national and in-state studies looking at property values, have found that a property's proximity to a trail directly correlates to increasing the value of a property.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. Please feel free to contact me if you require additional information at H26@iga.in.gov or 317-234-3101.

Sincerely, 

State Representative
Indiana House District 26



STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

Mike Karickhoff
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
www.in.gov/H30
h30@iga.in.gov
317-232-9802

April 5, 2022

Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

Dear Mr. Lambert,

I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected segments outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program – READI.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the development project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services. The RAISE Project Area is lacking in active transportation infrastructure which this grant would significantly improve.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community but we must construct it to realize these benefits. I enthusiastically support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Karickhoff".

Mike Karickhoff
State Representative
House District 30

April 11, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Purdue University is pleased to support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY22 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, the lead applicant for this grant request and close partner of Purdue.

Purdue has partnered with WREC on long-range planning efforts for enhancements of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County, community activities, grant programs, and outreach efforts since its formation in 2004. WREC's leadership in the development of the regional Wabash River Greenway Corridor Master Plan and subsequent work with regional partners to fund Phase One through a State of Indiana regional economic development program has paved the way for this grant proposal and built excitement for the activities proposed in the RAISE Project.

The RAISE Project's proposed construction of an eight-plus mile North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop will connect Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue to each other, as well as the Wabash River Greenway, three city parks, four county parks, and Prophetstown State Park with a safe, active transportation route. It will also provide a much needed safe and accessible route for residents and Purdue students living in Lafayette. Presently, our students who walk or bike to campus from Lafayette must use the existing vehicular bridge, which is insufficient and has unprotected pedestrian facilities.

While the Wabash River is an iconic, natural feature in our community, it has long acted as a divider between our communities. The RAISE Project will significantly address this barrier and dramatically increase the accessibility between our communities and to the Wabash River.

Thank you for your consideration of this important, innovative, regional economic development, and quality of life project for Greater Lafayette and the area surrounding Purdue University. If you would like additional information, please feel free to contact me or WREC's Purdue representative, Ken Sandel, at 765-494-1061 or sandel@purdue.edu.

Sincerely,



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
President



Indiana Destination Development Corporation

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 5, 2022

Re: Wabash River Greenway Phase II Development Project –
North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Indiana Destination Development Corporation strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway Project, the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional Wabash River Greenway's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, and tourism destinations. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region.

If allocated, the **RAISE Grant** funding will develop Phase Two of the Greenway consisting of an 8+ mile looped active transportation section connecting Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other as well as Prophetstown State Park and the Wabash River Greenway.

The RAISE Project Area develops a section of the Indiana Department of Natural Resource State Visionary Trail system and enhances access to a National Park Service National Recreation Trail – the Wabash River Heritage Trail. It builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered, which have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project, including a protected bike lane in the project. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- An INDOT/County funded, in-design North 9th Street Road/Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project to include a protected bike lane in the project. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.

- Four Wabash River Greenway Pilot Projects being funded through the State of Indiana's READI Program - a regional economic development program. The RAISE Project will connect to the Tippecanoe County, READI Pilot Project - North River Road Trail Head facility.
- Designation of North River Road as a State Designated Scenic Byway - the Wabash River Scenic Byway (2008). The RAISE Project implements several recommendations from the INDOT funded, 2014, Wabash River Scenic Byway Management Plan:
 - Development of safe multi-modal transportation infrastructure.
 - Increasing connectivity to and developing new, commercial, residential, and outdoor recreation tourism centers along the Byway.
 - Increasing access to the river and existing and new green spaces.

The Wabash River Greenway and the RAISE Project specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the RAISE Project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the Wabash River Greenway Project.

National and in-state studies consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive return on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them. National and in-state studies looking at property values have also found that the value of those properties directly increases in relation to the proximity to trails.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in Indiana, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project – The Wabash River Greenway Phase II Development Project – The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. Please feel free to contact if you require additional information regarding our support of this important project at elbedel@iddc.in.gov.

Sincerely,



Elaine E. Bedel
Secretary and CEO
Indiana Destination Development Corporation



Division of State Parks
402 W. Washington Street, W-298
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 8, 2022

Re: Wabash River Greenway Phase One- North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing on behalf of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks in strong support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) application for funding through the USDOT RAISE Grant Program to construct the Wabash River Greenway Phase Two - North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project (Project).

The Project exhibits the guiding principles of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of State Parks and its Next Level Trails Grant Program to prioritize collaboration and connectivity through development of trails. It develops a segment of the Wabash River State Visionary Trail Corridor, and connects to a NPS designated National Recreation Trail – the Wabash River Heritage Trail. Specifically, the Project addresses Prophetstown State Park master plan goals to connect two major urban areas – the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette, and Purdue University, to the state park, and fosters development of a regional connection through the Regional Wabash River Greenway. Currently there is not a safe, active transportation route from Lafayette-West Lafayette, Purdue University, or the greater northwest Indiana region to the State Park.

The Wabash River Greenway plays a critical role in increasing visitation to Prophetstown State Park and in developing a world class opportunity for Hoosiers and visitors to experience these natural, cultural and recreational treasures of our state.

Sincerely,

Terry Coleman
Director
Division of State Parks
Indiana Department of Natural Resources.



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 11, 2022

Re: Wabash River Enhancement Corporation FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for Wabash River Greenway Phase Two Development Project – North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

North Central Health Services (NCHS) supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Project, the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

NCHS is a regional health services organization that also manages community benefits grant program targeting significant community health and development needs in our 8-county service area, which includes all five counties in the Wabash River Greenway (WRG) project area. NCHS views the enhancement of the Wabash River corridor and the development of the Wabash River Greenway as an effective strategy to address priority community health and development goals in the Greater Lafayette region. Enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor and development of the WRG are generational, legacy-setting community development initiatives for our region that will address health, recreation, education, and environmental management needs to elevate it as a region of choice.

NCHS has been a strong supporter of WREC from its formation in 2004, coming out of the 1999-01 Greater Lafayette Vision 2020 process in which enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor was identified as the top multi-jurisdictional community development goal in the Greater Lafayette region. NCHS led the community effort to form WREC to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor, and funded \$500 thousand, towards WREC's first five years of general operations in support of WREC.

NCHS has continued its strong support for Wabash River corridor enhancement and the Wabash River Greenway with contributions to date totaling over \$13 million for planning, land acquisition, and trail development projects. It is anticipated that upon award of the RAISE grant, and subsequent WREC Grant requests to NCHS, the NCHS Grants board will continue to review requests from the Wabash River Corridor Enhancement and the Wabash River Greenway through its grant program. Please feel free to contact Michelle Kreinbrook, Director of Community Benefit and Outreach at 765.423.1604 or michelle.kreinbrook@nchsi.com. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Long". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Long

President and CEO
North Central Health Services

2900 N. River Road
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906
765-423-1604



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Evansville

April 8, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Greenways Foundation of Indiana, I am writing in strong support of The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's (WREC) FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway - the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project.

The Greenways Foundation is a charitable trust working to promote the growth, enhancement and use of Indiana's greenways. The Foundation aids trail organizations through advocacy by offering technical expertise and providing grant funding for development and maintenance of greenways and blueways throughout the Hoosier State.

The regional Wabash River Greenway's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor and develops a 253-mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The RAISE Project will develop Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. This phase will connect Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, three city parks, four county parks, Prophetstown State Park, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and the Wabash River Scenic Byway.

The Greenways Foundation salutes the WREC and their ongoing efforts to develop a regional trail network through the heart of Indiana. This significant quality of life endeavor will provide substantial recreational, health and economic benefits to those in the Lafayette region, and eventually connect to national trail initiatives. We appreciate your support of this excellent proposal.

At Your Service,

Mitch Barloga, AICP
Board President

Greenways Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 80091
Indianapolis, IN 46280-0091

info@greenwaysfoundation.org
greenwaysfoundation.org



Find a trail. Find yourself.

April 4, 2022

To whom it may concern:

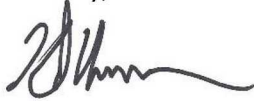
As chairman of the former Indiana Bicycle Trails Task Force, I was excited to learn about the Wabash River Greenway Corridor. As we discussed our task force duty to connect trails throughout Indiana, we settled on recommending criteria for creating valued and valuable trails. We recommended giving high priority to trails that connect communities with each other, cross county lines if possible, and involve places of interest. In other words, make trails that bring communities together and lead to places people want to go. It is noteworthy that the state's celebrated Next Level Trails program uses the same criteria.

The Wabash River Greenway master plan is a brilliant example of connecting trails to bring communities together, while also providing economic activity and enticing visitors to West-Central Indiana. As has been proven, repeatedly, trail projects bring increased value to properties along the trail corridor and health benefits to the people who use the trails. These important goals were clearly part of the planning for the corridor master plan.

Since my experience with the task force, I have been involved with trail projects around the state. The call for trail projects comes from community advocates who realize they need to create trails to attract and retain talent. Trails always top the list of community wants. Communities along the Wabash River Greenway are creating an amenity that will serve their current populations and attract residents and visitors for years to come.

I look forward to experiencing the Wabash River Greenway when they are granted resources to complete their outstanding plan.

Sincerely,



Kyle Hannon

Paul Grayson

5801 Lawton Loop East Drive
Apt. 6
Indianapolis, IN 46216

April 5, 2022

Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

Dear Mr. Lambert,

Please accept this letter in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG).

As the former Vice Chair of Governor's Bicycle Trails Task Force I have a good understanding of the network of both existing and planned trail systems throughout Indiana, as well as the inherent benefits those trail systems. I also currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Passage Alliance, which is a non-profit group working to create a network of connected trail systems to stretch continuously from Lake Michigan to the Ohio River. For a number of years I also served as an Advisory Trustee to the Nature Conservancy of Indiana. In this capacity I worked with Nature Conservancy staff on a number of programs involving the Wabash River and its watershed. Professionally, and finally, I worked for 38 years for the Indianapolis Zoological Society, the last 25 years I had oversight of the IZS' strategic and master planning, and capital project management.

I recently had the opportunity to receive a briefing on Wabash River Greenway's master plan. It is a brilliant plan. In my opinion the proposed multi-modal transportation system is significant not just regionally, but will be an important model nationally for how a regional multi-modal transportation system can be used to address multiple issues, including: linking urban and rural communities; economic revitalizing of small communities; creating a sense of place; and enhancing the quality of life.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected segments outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program – READI.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the development project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services. The RAISE Project Area is lacking in active transportation infrastructure which this grant would significantly improve.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver but it must become a reality to reap these benefits. I enthusiastically support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact me at Pbgrayson@sbcglobal.net

Sincerely,

Paul Grayson

April 7, 2022

Stanton Lambert, Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street, Lafayette, IN 47901

Dear Mr. Lambert,

As a member of Governor Holcomb's 2020 Trails Task Force I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor. The WRG includes the State designated Wabash River State Scenic Byway and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system that links eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with existing infrastructure. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program - READI.

The WRG and the RAISE Project generate significant direct economic development benefits by creating new construction jobs during the development of the project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services but we must construct it to realize these benefits. I enthusiastically support the WREC's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award.

Sincerely,

Vincent L. Griffin
3820 Brigade Circle
Carmel, Indiana 46032



Area Plan Commission of Tippecanoe County, Indiana

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 6, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am pleased to support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application for building Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The Wabash River Greenway's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land uses through five counties, along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal, active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The proposed WRG connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, and tourism destinations such as the Wabash and Erie Canal Interpretive Center in Delphi, Indiana. The Greenway corridor is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with only limited unconnected trails currently existing, outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst to improve quality of life for those along the Greenway and within the region.

If allocated, the **RAISE Project** funding will develop Phase Two of the WRG consisting of an 8+ mile active transportation loop connecting Lafayette, West Lafayette and Purdue University to each other, Prophetstown State Park, and the Wabash River Greenway. It will develop vital active transportation infrastructure in an area currently lacking it, and will connect it to Lafayette and West Lafayette's existing active transportation systems, providing essential linkages to commercial, residential, and associated job centers, as well as three city parks and four county parks, in addition to the aforementioned Prophetstown State Park. Currently, safe, active transportation infrastructure to Prophetstown State Park and the four county parks does not exist.

The **RAISE Project** builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered which have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project – WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.

- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The RAISE Project will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.

The WRG and the **RAISE Project**, specifically, address multiple priorities listed in the Transportation Section of the Tippecanoe County Comprehensive Plan.

- Development of active transportation infrastructure to link residential, commercial, educational and institutional uses, and related job centers
- Reduction of traffic congestion
- Separation of vehicular and bike/pedestrian routes to improve safety
- Commitment to development of Complete Streets

The WRG, when developed, will provide Greater Lafayette and the state of Indiana with a world-class destination trail experience while also serving to provide essential active transportation infrastructure to our community. The Tippecanoe Area Plan Commission enthusiastically endorses development of Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. I am confident you will give this proposal the serious consideration it deserves. If you are in need of any additional information, please feel free to contact me at 765-423-9242 or dhittle@tippecanoe.in.gov

Sincerely,



David Hittle
Executive Director
Area Plan Commission of Tippecanoe County



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 11, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Greater Lafayette Commerce enthusiastically supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Project, the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. The **RAISE Project** will develop **Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop**. The RAISE Project connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, seven city/county parks, Prophetstown State Park, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and the Wabash River Scenic Byway.

The regional WRG's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in connected trails. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, will generate significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the WRG development project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90-mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services.

A recent Indiana University Study found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent 3 – 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project Please feel free to contact me for additional information at [765.742-4044](tel:765.742.4044) or swalker@greaterlafayettecommerce.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Walker".

Scott Walker
CEO
Greater Lafayette Commerce

337 Columbia Street – Lafayette, IN 47901
PO Box 348 – Lafayette, IN 47902
Tel (765) 742.4044
Fax (765) 742.6276
www.greaterlafayettecommerce.com

Tippecanoe County Community Corrections



2800 North 9th Street Road Lafayette, IN 47904
Phone: 765-742-1279 Fax: 765-423-2896

April 11, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590
April 8, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Northern Indiana Development Foundation strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway - the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional Wabash River Greenway's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, and tourism destinations. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with limited unconnected trails only, currently existing outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region and provide critically needed active transportation infrastructure for our community.

The RAISE Project will develop Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. It is the first substantial development project of the WRG. The RAISE Project connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, three city parks, four county parks, Prophetstown State Park, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and my agency - Tippecanoe County Community Corrections.

The two main roads in the RAISE Project area are North River Road (Wabash River Scenic Byway) and North 9th Street Road. These roads are high volume traffic routes and separating bike/pedestrian traffic from vehicular traffic as planned in the RAISE Project, will facilitate increased use and opportunities for alternative transportation by residents and visitors. These roads serve as the primary connecting routes to the previously mentioned commerce, residential, and job centers, three city parks and four county parks and Prophetstown State Park, and my agency - Tippecanoe County Community Corrections. The Tippecanoe County Community Corrections agency, four county parks, and Prophetstown State Park are currently not served by active transportation infrastructure, necessitating travel by automobile to access these essential community and regional destination sites. The RAISE Project will address this significant need for active transportation infrastructure.

Jason Huber
◆ Executive Director

Kelly Morehouse
◆ Deputy Director

Kim Widner
◆ Office Manager

Kyle Turner
◆ Work Release
Coordinator

Phil McKinnis
◆ Home Detention &
Intake Coordinator

Kathryn Medrano
◆ Case Manager
Coordinator

Lisa Barnes
◆ Community
Outreach &
Training
Coordinator

Keyna Everett
◆ Pre-Trial
Coordinator

Norman Henry
◆ Substance Abuse
Counselor &
Special Programs
Coordinator

*Our **Mission** is to be progressive in providing cost effective, community-based alternative to incarceration by providing intensive supervision in combination with cognitive behavioral programs and evidence-based practices to more efficiently encourage positive change in our participants.*

Tippecanoe County Community Corrections



2800 North 9th Street Road Lafayette, IN 47904
Phone: 765-742-1279 Fax: 765-423-2896

Jason Huber
◆ Executive Director

Kelly Morehouse
◆ Deputy Director

Kim Widner
◆ Office Manager

Kyle Turner
◆ Work Release
Coordinator

Phil McKinnis
◆ Home Detention &
Intake Coordinator

Kathryn Medrano
◆ Case Manager
Coordinator

Lisa Barnes
◆ Community
Outreach &
Training
Coordinator

Keyna Everett
◆ Pre-Trial
Coordinator

Norman Henry
◆ Substance Abuse
Counselor &
Special Programs
Coordinator

Specifically, the separated side path proposed along North 9th Street Road will connect to the active transportation systems of Lafayette and West Lafayette to provide a safe active transportation route between my agency, where our participant's live and leave for work, education, treatment, and various other purposes, to the residential, commerce, and job centers located in Lafayette and West Lafayette where our clients frequent. A majority of our clients do not have access to a vehicle, and most walk or ride a bike along the busy North 9th Street Road, which currently completed lacks active transportation infrastructure once the road leaves city limits. Pedestrian and bike traffic on North 9th Street is extremely dangerous for those who must travel it without the use of a vehicle.

Additionally, the WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, will generate significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development phase of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of later phases of development of the WRG Project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90-mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services. These are jobs and opportunities perfectly suited for entry level employment opportunities so important to our clients.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in the region, and most importantly, develop the critically, essential safe, active transportation system infrastructure our community needs, but it must be built to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project. Tippecanoe County Community Corrections strongly endorses Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway - the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project. Please feel free to contact me for further information regarding our support at 765-742-1279 ext. 2828 or jdhuber@tippecanoe.in.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Huber".

Jason Huber
Executive Director
Tippecanoe County Community Corrections

*Our **Mission** is to be progressive in providing cost effective, community-based alternative to incarceration by providing intensive supervision in combination with cognitive behavioral programs and evidence-based practices to more efficiently encourage positive change in our participants.*



TIPPECANOE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Stewart W. Kline, P.E. Executive Director

Mike Spencer, Assistant Executive Director

20 North Third Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

Phone: (765) 423-9210
Fax: (765) 423-9127

April 7, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Tippecanoe County Highway Department is in full support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application for building Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The Wabash River Greenway's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses through five counties, along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253-mile looped multi-modal, active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The proposed WRG connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, and tourism destinations such as the Wabash and Erie Canal Interpretive Center in Delphi, IN. The Greenway corridor is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with only limited unconnected trails currently existing, outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst to improve quality of life for those along the Greenway and within the region.

If allocated, the RAISE Project funding will develop Phase Two of the WRG consisting of an 8+ mile active transportation loop, connecting Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue University to each other, Prophetstown State Park, and the Wabash River Greenway. It develops vital active transportation infrastructure in an area currently lacking it, and connects it to Lafayette and West Lafayette's existing active transportation systems, providing essential linkages to commercial, residential, and associated job centers, as well as three city parks and four county parks, in addition to the aforementioned Prophetstown State Park. Currently, safe, active transportation infrastructure to Prophetstown State Park and the four county parks does not exist.

The RAISE Project builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered which have resulted in the following complimentary projects being done outside of the RAISE Project:

- 1) A funded, and in-design, Tippecanoe County Highway Dept./INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck, Replacement Project. The project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility. Our department has worked closely with WREC during the early planning phase of this project to incorporate safe active transportation infrastructure into the bridge design. North 9th Street Road is a high traffic road currently totally lacking active transportation infrastructure, and the protected bike lane is the critical and essential link to connect the northern section of the county which includes two small towns, multiple residential areas, two county parks and Prophetstown State Park, to the Lafayette-West Lafayette urban centers.
- 2) A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- 3) Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The RAISE Project will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.

- 4) A Tippecanoe MPO funded, in-progress, City of West Lafayette/WRG Connector Trail. The connector trail links the West Lafayette active transportation system to the US 52/Wabash River Bridge protected bike lane, and the RAISE Project.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, address multiple priorities listed in the Transportation Section of the Tippecanoe County Comprehensive Plan.

- Development of active transportation infrastructure to link residential, commercial, educational, and institutional uses, and related job centers.
- Reduction of traffic congestion.
- Separation of vehicular and bike/pedestrian routes to improve safety
- Commitment to development of Complete Streets

The WRG when developed will provide Greater Lafayette and the state of Indiana with a world class destination trail experience while also serving to provide essential active transportation infrastructure to our community. The Tippecanoe Highway Department strongly supports development of Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. I am confident you will give this proposal the serious consideration it deserves. If you are in need of any additional information, please feel free to contact me at 765-423-9210 or skline@tippecanoe.in.gov

Sincerely,



Stewart Kline, PE
Executive Director
Tippecanoe County Highway Department



TIPPECANOE COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION DEPT.

4449 STATE ROAD 43 N.

WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA 47906-5753

Phone (765) 463-2306 tcparks@tippecanoe.in.gov

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 6, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway Project – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG), and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, regional tourism destinations, and Purdue University.

The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure, with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected segments, and often is not paved, outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. The RAISE Project Area is completely lacking in paved active transportation infrastructure outside of Lafayette and West Lafayette.

Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department has a unique and extensive park system along the Wabash River with ten of its parks, totaling approximately 1,250 acres, situated within the proposed Wabash River Greenway corridor. These parks provide excellent resources for experiencing our natural environment, accessing the Wabash River, and learning about Indiana's heritage ranging from its extensive Native American cultures prior to European/American expansion to Indiana's founding and development - driven by steam boats and the Wabash and Erie Canal on and along the Wabash River. **But, these excellent facilities and parks currently can only be accessed by automobile.**

The RAISE Project will develop an eight mile looped active transportation section of the WRG Active Transportation System and directly connect the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette, Purdue University, three city parks, four county parks, one State Park, and multiple commercial, residential, and job centers. The RAISE Project will develop a section of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Visionary Trail System, connect to, and enhance a National Park Service National Recreation Trail – the Wabash River Heritage Trail (the section outside of the Lafayette/West Lafayette is unpaved)

The RAISE Project builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered which have resulted in:

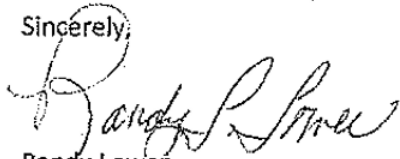
- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The RAISE Project will connect to this facility.
- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The RAISE Project will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.
- A funded, in-progress Tippecanoe County MPO Active Transportation Infrastructure Project connecting West Lafayette Active transportation System to the US 52/Wabash River Bridge, Lafayette, and the WRG.

Two complimentary, pending State of Indiana Next Level Trails Grant Projects if funded, will connect to the RAISE Project, of which, one is a Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Dept. Project, these pending projects consist of:

- A WREC/ City of Lafayette Sagamore Parkway (SP) Connector Trail - The SP Bridge- N. 9th Street Trail.
- A Tippecanoe County Park, Bicentennial Park Access Trail Project.

The Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department enthusiastically supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway Project – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. We request that the project and application be given full consideration for award. Please feel free to contact me for additional information regarding our support at 765.463.2306 or rlower@tippecanoe.in.gov

Sincerely,



Randy Lower
Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department



Economic Development Department
Communications & Marketing Department

515 Columbia Street • Lafayette, Indiana 47901-1412
Phone 765-807-1090 • www.lafayette.in.gov

April 6, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

RE: Wabash River Greenway Phase Two, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The City of Lafayette's Economic Development Department strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Project, the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253-mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and the University campus. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with limited unconnected trails currently existing outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region.

The **RAISE Project** will develop **Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop**. The **RAISE Project** connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, seven city/county parks, Prophetstown State Park, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and the Wabash River Scenic Byway, to provide an alternative transportation option for residents and visitors to shop, go to work/school, or pursue recreation opportunities.

The State Park and four of the seven city/county parks connected by the **RAISE Project** are currently not served by active transportation infrastructure at all, necessitating travel by automobile to access these popular destination points. The **RAISE Project** will address this significant need for active transportation infrastructure.

The WRG and the **RAISE Project** will generate significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development phase of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of later phases of development of the WRG Project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90-mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services.

A recent Indiana University Study found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent three to 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails.



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
Page 2 of 2

National and In-state studies consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive return on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them, while other National and in-state studies of property values have found that proximity to trails directly increases their value.

Approximately half of the RAISE Project area is located in a USDOT identified Historically Disadvantaged Area and will significantly benefit from an enhanced active transportation system in their area enabling them to more easily travel to work and school, meet daily living needs, and visit recreation areas via safe non-motorized transportation.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important Regional Economic Development and Quality of Life project – Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway, The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. Please feel free to contact me for additional information through the contact information above.

Sincerely,



Dennis H. Carson
Director





Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 6, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway Project – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG), and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, regional tourism destinations, and Purdue University.

The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure, with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected segments, and often is not paved, outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. The **RAISE Project Area** is completely lacking in paved active transportation infrastructure outside of Lafayette and West Lafayette.

The **RAISE Project** will develop an **eight mile looped active transportation section of the WRG Active Transportation System** and directly connect the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette and their respective active transportation systems, Purdue University, **one Lafayette City Park**, two West Lafayette City Parks, four county parks, one State Park, and multiple commercial, residential, and job centers. The **RAISE Project** will develop a section of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Visionary Trail System, connect to, and enhance a National Park Service National Recreation Trail – the Wabash River Heritage Trail (the section outside of the Lafayette/West Lafayette is unpaved)

The **RAISE Project** will be anchored in Lafayette by our 350 acre McAllister Regional Park with the existing North 9th Street Trail along its east border receiving much needed traffic safety and ADA accessibility improvements. The **RAISE Project**, proposed McAllister Park/Mascoutin Park (West Lafayette) Bike/Pedestrian Bridge will connect the communities and their active transportation systems with a safe, accessible route for residents and Purdue students living in Lafayette (especially the north end of Lafayette and its significant student population). Currently, Purdue University students opting to walk or bike to school from Lafayette must use the existing

Harrison vehicular bridge with its insufficient and unprotected pedestrian facilities. While the Wabash River is an iconic, natural feature in our community it has long acted as a barrier between our communities. The **RAISE Project** will eliminate this barrier and join our communities to dramatically increase the accessibility between our communities, and to the Wabash River.

The **RAISE Project** also builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered with state and local governments which have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette Regional, READI Development Project. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The **RAISE Project** will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI WRG Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.
- A funded, in-progress Tippecanoe County MPO Active Transportation Infrastructure Project connecting the West Lafayette Active transportation System to the US 52/Wabash River Bridge, Lafayette, and the WRG **RAISE Project**.

Two complimentary, pending State of Indiana Next Level Trails Grant Projects, if funded, will connect to the **RAISE Project**, these pending projects consist of:

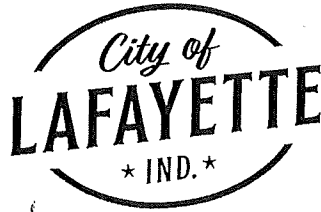
- A **WREC/** City of Lafayette Sagamore Parkway (SP) Connector Trail - The SP Bridge- N. 9th Street Trail.
- A Tippecanoe County Park, Bicentennial Park Access Trail Project.

The Lafayette Park and Recreation Department enthusiastically supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's FY2022 RAISE application to construct **Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project**. We request that the project and application be given full consideration for award. Please feel free to contact me for additional information regarding our support at 765.807.1503 or claufman@lafayette.in.gov

Sincerely,



Claudine Laufman
Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Lafayette County Park and Recreation Department



Economic Development
515 Columbia Street
Lafayette, Indiana 47901-1412

April 8, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Lafayette's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program strongly endorses the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG), and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure, with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected and unpaved segments outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. The **RAISE Project** Area outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems is completely lacking in active transportation infrastructure. The **RAISE Project** area outside of the city limits is approximately three fourths (.75) of the total project area.

The **RAISE Project** will develop an eight mile section of the WRG Active Transportation System and directly connect the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette, Purdue University, seven city/county parks, one State Park, and multiple commercial, residential, and job centers via the Wabash River Greenway's active transportation system. The **RAISE Project** will develop a section of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Visionary Trail System, connect to, and enhance a National Park Service National Recreation Trail – the Wabash River Heritage Trail.

The **RAISE Project** builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered with state and local governments on several complimentary transportation projects which will connect to the RAISE Project. These partnerships have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.

- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The **RAISE Project** will connect to the Tippecanoe County READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.

Two complimentary, pending State of Indiana Next Level Trails Grant Projects consisting of:

- A WREC/ City of Lafayette Sagamore Parkway (SP) Connector Trail - The SP Bridge- N. 9th Street Trail.
- A Tippecanoe County Park, Access Trail Project.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, address multiple priorities listed in the Transportation Section of the Tippecanoe County Comprehensive Plan and the Lafayette Active Transportation Plan.

- Development of active transportation infrastructure to link residential, commercial, educational, and institutional uses, and related job centers.
- Reduction of traffic congestion.
- Separation of vehicular and bike/pedestrian routes to improve safety
- Commitment to development of Complete Streets

The Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Program enthusiastically supports development of Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway - The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project. We request it be given full consideration for award. Please feel free to contact the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program for additional information regarding our support at 765 – 807 - 1097 or mdeverall@lafayette.in.gov

Sincerely,



Margy Deverall

Margy Deverall

she/her/hers

Economic Development Department

Senior Planner / Project Manager

Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator

phone 765-807-1097

address 515 Columbia St., Lafayette IN 47901



Sr. Planner Bicycle and pedestrian Program Coordinator
City of Lafayette



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

April 11, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The West Lafayette Development Department strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Project, the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with limited unconnected trails only currently existing, outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region

The **RAISE Project** will develop **Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop**. The **RAISE Project** connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, seven city/county parks, Prophetstown State Park, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and the Wabash River Scenic Byway, to provide an alternative transportation option for residents and visitors to shop, go to work/school, or pursue recreation opportunities.

The State Park and four of the seven city/county parks connected by the **RAISE Project** are currently not served by active transportation infrastructure at all, necessitating travel by automobile to access these popular destination points. The **RAISE Project** will address this significant need for active transportation infrastructure.

The WRG and the **RAISE Project** specifically, will generate significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development phase of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of in later phases of development of the WRG Project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services.

A recent Indiana University Study found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent 3 – 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails.

National and In-state studies consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive return on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them, while other National and



In-state studies looking at property values have found that proximity to trail directly increases the value of those properties.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project – Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway, The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. Please feel free to contact me for additional information at [765.775-5160](tel:765.775-5160) or eeaster@westlafayette.in.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erin Easter".

Erin Easter
Director
Department of Development
City of West Lafayette



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590
April 8, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The West Lafayette Park and Recreation Department strongly supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway Project – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG), and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, regional tourism destinations, and Purdue University.

The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure, with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected segments, and often is not paved, outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. The **RAISE Project Area** is completely lacking in paved active transportation infrastructure outside of Lafayette and West Lafayette.

The **RAISE Project** will develop an **eight mile looped active transportation section of the WRG Active Transportation System** and directly connect the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette, Purdue University, **two West Lafayette City Parks**, one Lafayette park, four county parks, one State Park, and multiple commercial, residential, and job centers. The **RAISE Project** will develop a section of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Visionary Trail System, connect to, and enhance a National Park Service National Recreation Trail – the Wabash River Heritage Trail (the section of this trail outside of the Lafayette/West Lafayette is unpaved).



The **RAISE Project** is anchored on the West Lafayette side of the river by two West Lafayette city parks, Mascoutin and Happy Hollow parks. Mascoutin Park will serve as the landing for the proposed **RAISE Project Bike/Pedestrian Bridge** which will provide a safe, active transportation facility connection to Lafayette, connecting directly into the 350 acre McAllister Park in Lafayette. The Bike/Pedestrian Bridge will provide a safe active transportation route for the significant Purdue University student population living in the north end of Lafayette. Currently these students, who rely on non-motorized transportation for their daily commute to class, must travel across the river via Harrison Bridge which has insufficient and unprotected active transportation infrastructure. Traffic safety data confirms that this bridge is unsafe for bike and pedestrian traffic. Mascoutin Park will also serve as the junction to connect the West Lafayette and WRG/**RAISE Project** active transportation systems and develop a safe active transportation route to connect West Lafayette to Prophetstown State Park and four county parks, which currently may only be accessed by automobile.

The two main roads in the **RAISE Project** area are North River Road (the State Designated Wabash River Scenic Byway) and North 9th Street Road, both of these roads are high volume traffic routes, and the **RAISE Project** will develop side paths to separate bike/pedestrian traffic from vehicular traffic. This separation will facilitate increased use and opportunities for alternative transportation by residents and visitors as they serve as primary WRG connecting routes to residential , commerce, and job centers, as well as the previously mentioned seven city/county parks and Prophetstown State Park, an important tourism destination along the Wabash River in Tippecanoe County.

The **RAISE Project** builds on the strong, innovative partnerships WREC has already fostered with state and local governments, which have resulted in:

- A completed (2019) INDOT US 52/Wabash River Bridge Replacement Project –WREC Plans were incorporated into the INDOT plan to include a protected bike lane in the project. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- A funded, in-design County/INDOT N 9th Street Road /Wabash River Bridge Deck Replacement Project incorporates WREC plans for a protected Bike lane. The **RAISE Project** will connect to this facility.
- Four Wabash River Greenway Master Plan Pilot Projects were incorporated into the funded, Greater



Lafayette regional READI development plan. READI is an Indiana State regional economic development program. Construction is scheduled for 2023. The RAISE Project will connect to the Tippecanoe County

READI Pilot Project - a North River Road Trail Head facility.

- A funded, in-progress Tippecanoe County MPO/City of West Lafayette Active Transportation Infrastructure Project connecting West Lafayette Active transportation System to the US 52/Wabash River Bridge, Lafayette, and the **RAISE Project** area.

Two complimentary, pending State of Indiana Next Level Trails Grant Projects if funded, will connect to the **RAISE Project**, of which, one is a Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Dept. Project, these pending projects consist of:

- A **WREC**/ City of Lafayette Sagamore Parkway (SP) Connector Trail - The SP Bridge-N. 9th Street Trail.
- A Tippecanoe County Park, Bicentennial Park Access Trail Project.

The West Lafayette Park and Recreation Department enthusiastically supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway Project – the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop Development Project. We request that the project and application be given full consideration for award. Please feel free to contact me for additional information regarding our support at 765.775.5110 or klozano@wl.in.gov

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lozano
Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
West Lafayette Park and Recreation Department |



April 6, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 200590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Visit Lafayette West Lafayette enthusiastically supports the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC), FY2022 RAISE application to construct Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG) Project, the North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. WREC is the regional nonprofit agency leading the development of the Wabash River Greenway, and the lead applicant for this grant request.

The regional WRG's proposed active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with limited unconnected trails only, currently existing outside of the Lafayette and West Lafayette active transportation systems. Phase One of the WRG is funded by a State of Indiana regional economic development initiative – READI, and active development will begin in 2023. Phase one constructs five pilot projects spread through the five county WRG region. Development of the Greenway's active transportation system will serve as an economic catalyst towards improving quality of life for those along the trail and within the region

The **RAISE Project** will develop **Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway – the 8+ mile, North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop**. The RAISE Project, the first substantial development project of the WRG, connects Lafayette, West Lafayette, Purdue University, seven city/county parks, Prophetstown State Park, multiple commercial, residential, and job centers, and the Wabash River Scenic Byway.

Two main routes in the RAISE Project area are North River Road (Wabash River Scenic Byway) and North 9th Street Road, both of these roads are high volume traffic routes, and the RAISE Project will develop side paths to separate bike/pedestrian traffic from vehicular traffic. This separation will facilitate increased use and opportunities for alternative transportation by residents

VISIT LAFAYETTE – WEST LAFAYETTE

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• E-MAIL: jwade@HomeOfPurdue.com • WEB SITE: www.HomeOfPurdue.com



and visitors as they serve as the primary connecting routes to commerce, residential, and job centers, as well as seven city county parks and Prophetstown State Park, an important tourism destination along the Wabash River in Tippecanoe County. The State Park and four of the seven city/county parks connected by the RAISE Project are not served by active transportation infrastructure at all, necessitating travel by automobile to access these popular destination points. The RAISE Project will address this significant need for active transportation infrastructure.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, will generate significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the WRG development project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services.

A recent Indiana University Study found Indiana trail users spent \$3,500/year in support of their trail use, and regional and out of state users spent 3 - 10 times this amount annually - through lodging, shopping and meals while visiting our destination trails.

National and In-state studies consistently confirm that destination trails generate a positive return on investment through the revenue they generate exceeding the cost to maintain them, while other National and In-state studies looking at property values have found that proximity to trail directly increases the value of those properties.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community, but we must construct it to realize these benefits. Thank you for your consideration of this important regional economic development and Quality of Life project - Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway, The North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop. Please feel free to contact me for additional information at [765.477.9999](tel:765.477.9999) or jwade@homeofpurdue.com

Sincerely,


Jo Wilson Wade,
President & CEO
Cell 765.427.9309
Visit LAFAYETTE-WEST LAFAYETTE

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Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street, Lafayette, IN 47901

April 8, 2022

**Re: Wabash River Greenway Phase II Development Project -
North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop**

Dear Mr. Lambert,

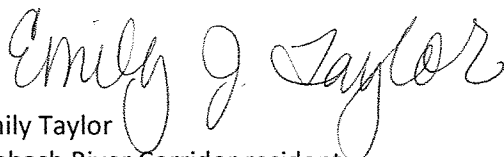
As a long-time resident of the Wabash River Corridor, I am writing in enthusiast support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor. The WRG develops a 253 mile looped active transportation system that links eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is currently, significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure.

I live within five miles of four Tippecanoe County Parks and Prophetstown State Park all situated along the Wabash Greenway proposed route, and I have to drive to them when I and my family want enjoy the outdoors and the river, due to there not being any trails in place to connect to them. The RAISE Project and the regional Wabash River Greenway Project will develop these trails to provide an alternative transportation route to these great parks!

Additionally, the WRG and the RAISE Project generates significant direct economic development benefits locally by creating new construction jobs during all phases of WRG development, and also create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services **but we must construct it to realize these benefits**. I enthusiastically support the WREC's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award.

Sincerely,



Emily Taylor
Wabash River Corridor resident

Stanton Lambert
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

Dear Mr. Lambert,

I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land-uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor, including the State designated, Wabash River State Scenic Byway, and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system, linking eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway connects multiple commercial districts, residential areas, employment centers, local and regional parks, tourism destinations, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with existing infrastructure existing in limited unconnected segments outside of the Lafayette-West Lafayette active transportation systems. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program – READI.

The WRG and the RAISE Project specifically, generates significant direct economic development benefits, creating new construction jobs during the development of the project, and creating sustainable jobs through continuation of the development of later phases of the development project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services throughout the 90 mile, five county, greenway region through growth of outdoor recreation and tourism industry services. The RAISE Project Area is lacking in active transportation infrastructure which this grant would significantly improve.

The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community but we must construct it to realize these benefits. I support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award. Please feel free to contact me at piggott@purdue.edu

Sincerely,



Mike Piggott

7204 W. Greenview Drive, Battle Ground, IN 47920



Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street, Lafayette, IN 47901

April 8, 2022

**Re: Wabash River Greenway Phase II Development Project -
North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation System Loop**

Dear Mr. Lambert,

As the owner of the electric bike shop eBoom Electric Bikes, I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

The regional WRG's planned active transportation system winds through a diverse cross-section of land uses along 90 miles of the Wabash River Corridor. The WRG includes the State designated Wabash River State Scenic Byway and develops a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system that links eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University. The Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with existing infrastructure. WREC has worked with its regional partners to fund Phase 1 of the WRG through a State of Indiana regional economic development program - READI.

The WRG and the RAISE Project generates significant direct economic development benefits by creating new construction jobs during the development of the project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services but we must construct it to realize these benefits. I enthusiastically support the WREC's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award.

Sincerely,

Lee Ann McKay
Owner
E BOOM



BOONE COUNTY

Solid Waste Management District

127 West Main Street • Suite 313 • Lebanon, Indiana 46052
765-483-0687 • 765-483-0726 (Fax) • www.boonecountysolidwaste.com

Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

Dear Mr. Lambert,


I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

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The Wabash River Greenway will be a significant and sustainable economic driver in our community but we must construct it to realize these benefits. I enthusiastically support the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award. Please feel free to contact me at 765-483-0687 or jlawrence@co.boone.in.us.

Sincerely,



Jennifer L. Lawrence
Executive Director

Stanton Lambert
Executive Director
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
200 North 2nd Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

April 8, 2022

Dear Mr. Lambert,

As an avid bicyclist and an employee in the WREC area, I am writing in support of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) FY2022 RAISE Grant Application for constructing Phase Two of the Wabash River Greenway (WRG). WREC was formed in 2005 by three local governments (Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County), and Purdue University to serve as the point agency for planning and implementing the enhancement of the Wabash River Corridor in Tippecanoe County. WREC initially focused its corridor enhancement efforts on the 30 miles of the Wabash River flowing through Tippecanoe County. Since that beginning, WREC has transitioned into its long range mission with the completion of the regional WRG Corridor Master Plan.

The vision demonstrated by the WRG Master Plan will be a major asset for not only the area residents but will attract many people from all over Indiana and beyond. The entire area will benefit from significant tourism and economic development. Additionally, as the Greenway region is significantly lacking in active transportation infrastructure with existing infrastructure this RAISE grant will provide a major boost in helping to create a 253 mile looped multi-modal active transportation system that links eight communities, two state parks, and Purdue University.

The WRG and the RAISE Project generate significant direct economic development benefits by creating new construction jobs during the development of the project. Additionally, the WRG will create new, sustainable jobs from new/expanding greenway related businesses and services but we must construct it to realize these benefits. I enthusiastically support the WREC's North River Road/North 9th Street Road Active Transportation Loop, RAISE Grant Program application, and request it be given full consideration for award.

Sincerely,

Dan Meyer
Zionsville, IN
Cyclist