



August 11, 2022

Contact: [pressoffice@dot.gov](mailto:pressoffice@dot.gov)

**Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$19.5 Million in Funding for Two Projects in Indiana to Modernize Transportation and Make it More Affordable, Increase Safety and Strengthen Supply Chains**

*President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law more than doubles the funding for popular RAISE Program this year*

Today, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced that the Biden-Harris Administration has awarded \$19.5 million to support two projects in Indiana from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program to help move forward on projects that modernize roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, and intermodal transportation and make our transportation systems safer, more accessible, more affordable, and more sustainable. This year's total allocations nationwide include more than \$2.2 billion thanks to the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which provides an additional \$7.5 billion over five years for the program to help meet the strong demand to help projects get moving across the country.

"We are proud to support so many outstanding infrastructure projects in communities large and small, modernizing America's transportation systems to make them safer, more affordable, more accessible, and more sustainable," said **U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg**. "Using funds from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this year we are supporting more projects than ever before."

Projects were evaluated on several criteria, including safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunity, partnership and collaboration, innovation, state of good repair, and mobility and community connectivity. Within these areas, the Department considered how projects will improve accessibility for all travelers, bolster supply chain efficiency, and support racial equity and economic growth – especially in historically disadvantaged communities and areas of persistent poverty.

In Indiana, the following projects will benefit from RAISE awards:

- **Ridge Road Complete Streets Project** – The Civil Town of Munster will receive \$17.1 million to reconfigure approximately 1.3 miles of Ridge Road traffic lanes from five lanes to three, add a 10-foot-wide multi-use path on the south side of the street, plant more than 250 trees, and install amenities including landscaping, gateway and

wayfinding signage, and pedestrian seating. From 2016 to 2020, there were over 600 crashes on Ridge Road, among the highest of any corridor in Munster. By making Complete Streets improvement, the project will provide safer non-motorized access to the planned train station for commuters to Chicago. The project also utilizes 10% DBE participation in construction and labor workforce will be provided through local unions.

- **Market District Improvement Planning Project** – The City of South Bend will receive \$2.4 million for this planning project, which will fund preliminary engineering activities for the mitigation of the physical transportation barrier in Southeast South Bend caused by freeway ramps from Indiana State Road 23 and the St. Joseph River. The planning covers thirteen project components that will create a network of interconnected multimodal streets. The project will remove a physical barrier that is at the end of its useful life. The current infrastructure cuts off access to groceries, a farmer's market, housing, Jefferson Middle School, Howard Park, and Veterans Park for non-motorized travelers in an underserved community, and the project improvements will create safe ways for individuals to bike and walk through the area. This project design will also support the use of local transit and provide more transportation options.

Today, Secretary Buttigieg is in Tucson and Phoenix where he is visiting two of the projects receiving RAISE awards. Later this month the Secretary and other senior USDOT officials will fan out across the country to visit additional sites that are receiving RAISE awards to highlight the ways that the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is helping invest in communities and get important infrastructure projects moving in communities large and small.

The full list of awards can be found [here](#).

Additional background:

- 2022 RAISE grants are for planning and capital investments that support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, or intermodal transportation.
- 50% of funding is designated for projects in rural areas, and 50% of the funding is designated for projects in urban areas.
- Nearly two-thirds of projects are located in areas of persistent poverty or historically disadvantaged communities.
- The largest grant award is \$25 million. Per statute, no more than \$341.25 million could be awarded to a single state in this round of funding.
- Among this year's selected projects, 11 included a local hire provision.
- Several projects include workforce development aspects including four projects that have project labor agreements, eight projects that have registered apprenticeship programs and an additional eight projects with other workforce development provisions.

The RAISE program is one of several ways communities can secure funding for projects under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's competitive grant programs. Later this year, the Biden-Harris Administration will announce recipients of the first-ever National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) program, as well as the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program and the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program (RURAL).

###