



Friday, March 11, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for the Ada County Highway District Access to Opportunity Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Treasure Valley Cycling Alliance (TVCA) is pleased to write in support of Ada County Highway District's (ACHD) request for grant funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation R.A.I.S.E. program to further develop and design the Access to Opportunity Project. We applaud ACHD's efforts to advance the proposed project and recognize the positive impact it will have on a Historically Disadvantaged Community. The project will provide the community with connectivity and access to jobs, food, shopping, parks and recreation, education, health care, transit, and overall access to opportunity that has not existed.

The TVCA has collaborated for years with ACHD to create the best possible infrastructure for Ada County that reduces barriers and provides a low-stress option for all residents to bike throughout our community. One specific area of collaboration is our bike counting auditing program, where we capture empirical data on the frequency of bicycle use through the infrastructure. That data has been beneficial to decision-making and our advocacy to make our community more accessible to bicycling as an active form of transportation.

The focus of this project is a region of the community that has been neglected for far too long and is easily the most challenging region of Ada County to bike to and from due to natural barriers and the built environment. The multijurisdictional nature of the landholding adds additional challenges to navigate. Therefore, community engagement in planning and project selection will be essential through Neighborhood Associations, Parent Teaching Organizations, and Canal management groups. We hope to be an active member in this process due to its foreseen positive impact on the community.

We strongly support this project and are excited to participate in the planning process with ACHD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Stefancic", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Stefancic
Vice President
Treasure Valley Cycling Alliance

