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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0301

March 31, 2022

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
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ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEES
ENVIRONMENT
NATIONAL SECURITY

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Town of Clarkdale RAISE Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As a member of Congress, I wish to extend my support for the Town of Clarkdale's planning Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant application for their New Bitter Creek Bridge and Cement Plant Road Extension project. Both aspects of the project have been vetted by regional transportation technical experts and determined to be of significant value to the Verde Valley region. I am eager for the development of this project that will positively impact both the economy and quality of life of the region.

This project is beneficial for the Verde Valley as it provides secure and enhanced access to the only railroad terminus in the Verde Valley, resulting in significant supply chain benefits, expanded shipping choices, and reduces reliance on regional highways and interstates. The project also increases job creation potential with workforce availability within walking distance.

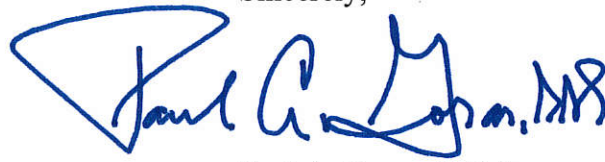
Regional business has become more stable, competitive, and the area is more attractive to site selectors for the location of new and expanded businesses. This project provides businesses continuity protection, emergency response capability, and ensures access to residences and places of work while providing alternative ingress/egress routes away from residential neighborhoods and retail/commercial business districts for freight transport. It also provides multi-modal access to work places, hiking trails and water recreation activities.

Lastly, this project supports tourism through increased access by larger escorted touring vehicle. It also achieves a priority in the Clarkdale General Plan and the Northern Arizona Council of Government's Regionally Significant Projects list.

In rural communities, such as those in the Verde Valley, we understand that often our best solutions are regional in nature. By working together, we improve conditions for all of our residents, businesses, and governmental entities. I am particularly supportive of efforts such as Clarkdale's project as described in this grant application. I implore your consideration to invest in this project so we can increase commerce, create jobs, protect business continuity, and enhance the quality of life for all residents in the Verde Valley region.

Thank you for your diligent consideration of this request. Please adhere to all rules and regulations when addressing this matter and please let me know if you have additional questions about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.", with a large, stylized initial "P" and "G".

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

CC: Bill Regner
Clarkdale Town Council Member