



BIRMINGHAM, AL

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Reconnecting 4th Ave N



**A Two-Way Vision for
Reviving Legacy and
Inspiring Progress**



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Dea. Terrence Brown, Chair
Deacon Ministry

Mr. Theodore Debro Jr., Chair
Trustee Ministry

Mrs. Bridgette Glover, Chair
Finance Committee



Rev. Arthur Price, Jr., Pastor

Mrs. Valerie Lee
Executive Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Tara Walton
Church Clerk

Dea. Ivan Holloway
Treasurer

September 7, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing this letter to express the strong support for the application submitted by the City of Birmingham Alabama for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods grant from 16th Street Baptist Church. We believe that the proposed project to convert 4th Ave N from a one-way to a two-way street in Birmingham, Alabama, will have a transformative impact on 4th Ave's Historic Black Mainstreet and the surrounding community of which we are a part.

16th Street Baptist Church has witnessed firsthand the rich history and cultural significance of 4th Ave N. This historic area has played a pivotal role in the African American community's economic and social life, serving as a vibrant hub for businesses, arts, and cultural activities. However, the one-way traffic system has posed several challenges, limiting accessibility and reducing foot traffic to the local businesses that are the lifeblood of this community.

The proposed conversion of 4th Ave N to a two-way street presents a unique opportunity to revitalize this historic area and strengthen the sense of community and connectivity. Here are some of the benefits that we believe will result from this project:

1. **Enhanced Accessibility:** Converting 4th Ave N to a two-way street will make it easier for residents and visitors to access local businesses, cultural institutions, and community services. This increased accessibility will drive economic growth and benefit the livelihoods of the businesses along the avenue.
2. **Promotion of Small Businesses:** The project will create a more welcoming environment for pedestrians, encouraging them to explore the various shops and restaurants on 4th Ave. This increased foot traffic will provide a much-needed boost to small businesses, helping them thrive and contribute to the local economy.

3. Preservation of Historic Heritage: By improving the infrastructure and aesthetics of 4th Ave N, we can better preserve the rich history and heritage of this area. This project aligns with efforts to maintain and celebrate the cultural significance of Birmingham's Historic Black Mainstreet.

4. Community Cohesion: A two-way 4th Ave N will foster a sense of community and social connection. It will create a safer environment for residents to interact, making it an ideal space for cultural events, festivals, and gatherings that celebrate the local community.

5. Reduced Traffic Congestion: The conversion to a two-way street can help alleviate traffic congestion in the area, leading to a smoother flow of vehicles and reducing stress on commuters.

This project is a significant step toward revitalizing 4th Ave's Historic Black Mainstreet and the 16th Street Baptist Church and ensuring that it remains a thriving, culturally significant, and economically vibrant part of Birmingham. It aligns with the goals of the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods grant program and will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the entire community.

16th Street Baptist Church wholeheartedly endorse the application submitted by the City of Birmingham and urge you to consider it favorably. The conversion of 4th Ave N to a two-way street is not just a transportation improvement; it is an investment in the cultural heritage, economic vitality, and social cohesion of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you require any further information or would like to discuss this matter in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact us at pastor@16thStreetBaptist.org or 205.251.9402.

Sincerely,



Rev. Arthur Price, Jr, Pastor



Theodore Debros, Chair Board of Trustees



400 S. Union Street, #100 | Montgomery, AL 36104
1-866-542-8167 | Fax: 334-240-6952 | TTY: 1-877-434-7498
aarp.org/al | alaarp@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpal
facebook.com/Alabama

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

September 15, 2023

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

AARP Alabama is pleased to offer this letter of support for the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. Well-designed, livable communities that include complete streets elements promote and sustain economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of every age, in all life stages.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

AARP Alabama supports the city's application for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at ccwilliams@aarp.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Williams".

Candace Williams
State Director
AARP Alabama





American Planning Association
Alabama Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

September 11, 2023

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Mac Martin and I serve as the president of the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association (ALAPA). I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Converting 4th Ave N to a complete street will help to connect users of all abilities to, and help revive, an otherwise detached and economically distressed corridor through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. Additionally, we see the project providing enhanced, safe access to resources for residents and businesses grappling with poverty. The entire corridor is located within a designated Area of Persistent Poverty. The City of Birmingham considers this project such a priority that it has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, though the Area of Persistent Poverty designation exempts the city from any such requirement.

ALAPA is committed to seeing great communities happen across our wonderful state. Given the improvements this project promises to bring to the health, safety, and general welfare of some of our least fortunate citizens, we believe this project helps fulfill our organization's mission. With that in mind, we fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mac W. Martin, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Mac W. Martin, Jr., AICP
President



August 31, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods - City of Birmingham, AL Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As President of the Alabama Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ALSITE), I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for the FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Avenue N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th Street N and 9th Street N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The Alabama Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers is a professional organization of individuals who are involved in the field of transportation and who share a common interest in improving the quality of the transportation systems in Alabama. ALSITE includes individuals engaged as engineers, planners, technicians, administrators, academicians, researchers, sales representatives, and students in transportation fields in Alabama. Our Board of Directors voted to approve this letter of support for this project.

Reverting 4th Avenue N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Avenue N and 17th Street N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at 334.501.7390 or bezelle@auburnalabama.org.

Sincerely,

Brandy Ezelle, P.E.
2023 ALSITE President

2023 Board of Directors:

Clark Bailey (Kimley-Horn), Section Representative
Matt Johnson (ALDOT), Vice President
Laura Beth Yates (Kimley-Horn), Immediate Past President

Brandy Ezelle (City of Auburn), President
Veronica Ramirez Ayala (ATAP), Secretary/Treasurer
Cody Long (Shelby County), Section Administrator



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2024 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are Alabama Urbanists Coalition, a community organization organized to advocate for building places, communities, and cities around people. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Alabama Urbanists Coalition is a community organization advocating to the people-oriented places, including on subjects like traffic safety, walkable and bikeable neighborhoods, and housing and land-use reform. AUC members include over 100 people across Alabama excited about the prospect of shifting away from a car-centric model for American communities.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.



We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Daniel Christiansen

Daniel Christiansen

Chair

Alabama Urbanists Coalition

alurbanists@gmail.com

**Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590**

RE: U.S. Department of Transportation FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities
and Neighborhoods – City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

My name is Karen Rogers, and I serve as the Interim Dean of the College of Architecture, Design and Construction at Auburn University in Alabama. I write in support of the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will directly benefit the city's downtown area by converting 4th Ave N from one-way to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a vibrant urban street with two-way traffic, transit, on-street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Auburn is a land grant university with a student population of approximately 30,000, as well as being classified as a Carnegie Research 1 institution. Two of its signature, widely recognized programs reside in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction: Rural Studio, a design-build program located in western Alabama, and Urban Studio, an architecture and urban design program located in downtown Birmingham. Both programs are now 30 years old and have a distinguished record of serving their communities. As a college we work closely and consistently with the Birmingham community, with municipal government and with the city's design and construction professionals.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will make the neighborhood safer for pedestrians and automobiles alike by reducing the number of accidents that currently occur at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing that this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a U.S. Department of Transportation Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful, long-term and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your interest and your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop and a horizontal line extending to the left.

Karen L. Rogers, Ph.D.

Interim Dean, College of Architecture, Design and Construction

Auburn University

202 Dudley Commons

Auburn, AL 36849-5313

334-844-4285

klr0008@auburn.edu



Birmingham Bicycle Club

Helping everyone enjoy cycling

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary, Buttigieg:

My name is Lloyd Maisonville and I am the President of the Birmingham Bicycle Club. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

I have been the Club President for the last 2 years. We managed to rebuild and grow our club after coming out of pandemic. We now have just under 330 members and our mission as a club is to improve cycling safety and advocacy in Birmingham. I am often asked by the membership what the city is doing to help improve the infrastructure for cyclists. This initiative falls directly in line with our goals.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project

is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Maisonville, President, Birmingham Bicycle Club.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lloyd Maisonville". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and a prominent flourish at the end.

BBC_president@Bhambikeclub.org

Bhambikeclub.org

To:

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

September 1, 2023

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Birmingham Business Alliance (BBA), I am writing in support of the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Avenue North from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th Street North and 9th Street North. This street is in the heart of our Historic 4th Avenue Business District, one of the few remaining black commercial corridors in the Southeast.

As the economic development agency for the Greater Birmingham Region and the local chamber of commerce for the city of Birmingham, BBA values the importance of preserving this historic downtown infrastructure. Reverting 4th Avenue North back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development.

The overall project concept will further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal transportation city, allowing better accessibility for public-transit, walking, biking and driving. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on-street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

BBA is aware the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project. Although the match funding is not required because the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the match is a show of Birmingham's commitment to this project.

This project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's Historic 4th Avenue Business District and surrounding communities. Therefore, we fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant.

Sincerely,



Steve Ammons
President & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham Business Alliance



www.birminghamhistoricalsociety.com

September 19, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

This letter supports the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. This proposed project will convert 4th Avenue North in the Birmingham city center from a one-way to a two-way street out the 15 blocks between 24th Street North and 9th Street North. The result will provide an animated street with two-way traffic, more street parking, protected bike lanes, ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections, and streetscape elements on select blocks.

Birmingham Historical Society, of which I serve as director, has been involved with the 4th Avenue North District since 1980, the year in which the Society researched the traditional black business area and nominated it to the National Register of Historic Places.

Reverting 4th Avenue North back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive our city's historic black business district. It will also help reduce the number of crashes at the intersection of 4th Avenue North and 17th Street North. The overall project will help advance the city center's goal of becoming a people and business centered rather than automobile-centered. While this project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the City, though not required to, has committed to a \$2 million match towards the total project, marking it as a priority.

We fully support the City's application for this grant. This project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on 4th Avenue and the city center. If you need more information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marjorie L. White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marjorie L. White



BIRMINGHAM PARK AND RECREATION

Director
Shonae' Eddins- Bennett

Board Members
Ronald D. Mitchell, President
Larry D. Cockrell, Vice-President

Walter Body
Carol Clarke
Meghan Ann Hellenga

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Birmingham Park and Recreation Board is writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks. Birmingham Park and Recreation is a servant to public service. This grant will impact two of our frequently visited parks. Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Mitchell, President
Birmingham Park and Recreation

Shonae' Eddins-Bennett, Director
Birmingham Park and Recreation



LaKisha C. Mack
Chair

Jeff V. Havercroft
Secretary/Treasurer

Anthony Porter
Member

BIRMINGHAM PARKING AUTHORITY

1732 5th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203

(205) 321-7050
Fax (205) 214-1493
www.bhamparking.com

André R. Davis
Executive Director & CEO

August 28, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods – City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is André R. Davis and I currently serve as the Executive Director and CEO of the Birmingham Parking Authority. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Avenue North from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th Street North and 9th Street North. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The Birmingham Parking Authority was founded in 1972 with the mission of providing accessible, safe, convenient, and affordable parking. Today, we manage over 8,000 parking spaces across seven (7) parking decks and three (3) surface parking lots. It is our mission to serve the needs of our rapidly growing city by educating, informing, and collaborating with partners in the Birmingham public.

Reverting 4th Avenue North back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Avenue North and 17th Street North, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

André R. Davis
Executive Director & CEO

Birmingham Ultra Trail Society
P.O. Box 661332
Birmingham, AL 35266
(205) 601-0324
runbutsgmail.com



September 7, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham
Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing on behalf of the Birmingham Ultra Trail Society to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

As an established Birmingham 501(c)(3), the Birmingham Ultra Trail Society adds our enthusiastic support of this project. Our organization includes thousands of future users of this space, and we appreciate that this project will enhance the safety of outdoor recreation, especially in a way that connects communities.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amber M. Whillock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amber" being the most prominent.

Amber M. Whillock
President
Birmingham Ultra Trail Society

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I serve on the Board of Birmingham Urban Mountain Pedalers (BUMP), Alabama's largest and oldest mountain biking club. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

BUMP supports cycling in all its forms in Birmingham and recognizes the value of bike infrastructure in making a healthier, stronger community.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by 'Tubbs' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jacob Tubbs

BUMP, Inc.

Executive Director
Charlotte Shaw



Board Chair
Theodore "Ted" Smith

August 23, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am pleased to inform you that the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority supports the City of Birmingham's request for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project aims to convert 15 blocks of 4th Ave N from one-way to two-way traffic, from 24th St N to 9th St N. The project will create a complete street with two-way traffic, on-street parking, transit access, ADA-compliant sidewalks and intersections, and protected bike lanes. The project will also include streetscape enhancements on select blocks.

Our goal at BJCTA is to provide reliable and secure transportation services that promote our communities' well-being, sustainability, and economy. The proposed project perfectly aligns with our goal of enhancing the quality of life in our community. By restoring 4th Ave N to its original two-way alignment, the project will boost the economy of Birmingham's Black Main Street and help address the frequent accidents at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N. Additionally, this initiative supports the city's goal of prioritizing people-centric design and development while promoting multimodal transportation.

Although the project falls within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to providing \$2 million in matching funds to demonstrate its dedication to this initiative. This project will have a sustainable and meaningful impact on Birmingham's communities and fully support the city's application for the grant.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Charlotte Shaw", written over a horizontal line.

Charlotte Shaw
Executive Director/CEO

BLACK PEOPLE RUN BIKE AND SWIM

August 30, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Jerri Haslem and I am the founder of Black People Run, Bike, and Swim. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Black People Run, Bike and Swim is an activist group working to change the perception that black people do not participate in outdoor recreational activities. As part of that work we advocate for increased investment in active transportation in predominantly black communities such as Smithfield and the 4th Ave Business District.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jerri L. Haslem
CEO | Run Bike Swim Foundation | 5k At The Junction



P.O. Box 1661
Birmingham,
Alabama 35201
United States

PHONE 205.542.5391
EMAIL jerri@bprbs.com
WEBSITE www.blackpeoplerrunbikeandswim.com



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

August 25, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods – *City of Birmingham Application*

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Father Bryan Jerabek, and I am Pastor & Rector of the historic Cathedral of Saint Paul in downtown Birmingham, Alabama. We are one of the original congregations in Birmingham, present downtown since just a year after the city's founding.

I am writing to you today to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Avenue North from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th Street North and 9th Street North. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA-compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Fourth Avenue North runs along one side of our church's property, so this project is of great interest to us. We support all efforts to make our downtown more user-friendly and inviting for businesses and residents, and also to preserve its rich history.

In this connection, reverting 4th Avenue North back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Avenue North and 17th Street North, and the overall project concept will help further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, I understand that the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

I fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Very Reverend Bryan W. Jerabek, J.C.L.
Pastor & Rector



CAWACO
RESOURCE, CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
2112 11TH AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 541
BIRMINGHAM, AL35205
Phone: (205) 623-0457

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

August 29, 2023

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application
Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We are a non-profit organization in Jefferson County, Alabama that works closely with the Birmingham Department of Transportation. We provide green infrastructure to Urban Heat Islands through a regional health department grant. The project area proposed for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods funding is within our impacted area.

I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks what will add cooling and traffic calming to this busy, hot street.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. This type of transit project will help calm traffic and reduce accidents that are common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N. The City of Birmingham is committed to becoming multimodal people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Francesca Gross

Francesca Gross
Program Manager Cool Green Trees www.coolgreentrees.org
Cawaco RC&D Council www.cawaco.org

**Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590**

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Donna Williams Whitlock, Central City Neighborhood President.

I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

I personally look forward to the Two-way conversion improving the livability of our central city neighborhood by reducing crime and street racing and by increasing property values, business revenue and bike and pedestrian traffic.

I am a UAB retiree and have lived downtown for several years. I look forward to our needed changes. At our last neighborhood meeting, the neighbors had many questions regarding this conversion, they were in agreement of the proposal.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-

centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Donna Williams Whitlock

1-205-994-4059

Gogrlgo@aol.com



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods - City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:


I'm Sam Heide, president of the City Center District Management Corporation. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

756C39CF001A4DF...

Sam Heide
Board Chair, City Center District Management Corporation (CCDMC)

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION



SHEILA TYSON

COMMISSIONER DISTRICT II
Community Development & Health Services
Suite 250
716 Richard Arrington, Jr. Blvd. N
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
Telephone (205) 325-5074
FAX (205) 325-4878

September 20, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am Jefferson County Commissioner Sheila Tyson. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project is a part of the commission district I represent. It will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a return to vibrancy and opportunity for a district that had lost its luster and has since been given new life with the revitalization of the Historic 4th Avenue Black Business District as well as the Birmingham National Civil Rights Monument that we created by former President Barack Obama in January of 2017. This project will re-establish two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

As a member of the Jefferson County Commission, I represent the proposed project area. Prior to becoming a county commissioner, I served as a member of the Birmingham City Council. I think this project will do a lot for the downtown community which growing more every day.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. The city is fully committed to this project and has pledged to invest \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

I fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Sheila Tyson



September 10, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham - the largest and oldest community foundation in the state – has long supported multimodal transportation projects as a means of building more livable, vibrant, and equitable communities. Our foundation has partnered with the City of Birmingham on many of these projects, including a 2012 TIGER grant that built street-based and greenway trails in a number of Birmingham neighborhoods, including some of those most underserved by transportation infrastructure. We have been a strong supporter of some recent City of Birmingham applications to USDOT, including some that have been successful.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities. If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher Nanni".

Christopher Nanni, President
Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham





BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL

SERVING CITIZENS THROUGH PUBLIC POLICY

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am Councilor Darrell O'Quinn of the Birmingham City Council-District Five, and I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

Wardine T. Alexander, President, District 7 | Crystal N. Smitherman, Esq., President Pro Tempore, District 6

Clinton P. Woods, District 1 | Hunter Williams, District 2 | Valerie A. Abbott, District 3 | J. T. Moore, District 4 | Darrell B. O'Quinn, District 5 | Carol E. Clarke, District 8 | LaTonya A. Tate, District 9

Cheryl A. Kidd, Council Administrator | Jeffery M. Daniels, Deputy Council Administrator



BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL

SERVING CITIZENS THROUGH PUBLIC POLICY

I fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities. If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at 205.254.2679 or email darrell.oquinn@birminghamal.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell O'Quinn".

Darrell O'Quinn, DVM, PhD

Councilor, Birmingham City Council

District Five

Wardine T. Alexander, President, District 7 | Crystal N. Smitherman, Esq., President Pro Tempore, District 6

Clinton P. Woods, District 1 | Hunter Williams, District 2 | Valerie A. Abbott, District 3 | J. T. Moore, District 4 | Darrell B. O'Quinn, District 5 | Carol E. Clarke, District 8 | LaTonya A. Tate, District 9

Cheryl A. Kidd, Council Administrator | Jeffery M. Daniels, Deputy Council Administrator

FIRST LIGHT

2230 Fourth Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
(205) 323-4277
www.firstlightshelter.org

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Sherry Bray and I am the Executive Director of First Light shelter. First Light is an emergency homeless shelter for women and women with children located in downtown Birmingham Al. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

First Light sits on the corner of 4th Avenue North and 23rd street. First Light has been in its current location since May 2000, starting out of the basement of a local church. First Light's emergency shelter consists of 36 beds and a family room on the second floor of the building in downtown Birmingham. First Light provides services to many of Birmingham's homeless women and children who have no other place to call home. In addition to emergency shelter, First Light provides supportive housing programs to help homeless individuals and families find and sustain housing. With the help of professional case management, guests are helped to overcome issues that led to homelessness. First Light works collaborative with others in the community to ensure that the many needs of the guest are met. With the proposed street changes, many of our guest will see the benefits of decreased traffic, accelerated driving and a better feel of the community in which they live.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project



FIRST LIGHT

2230 Fourth Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
(205) 323-4277
www.firstlightshelter.org

is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Sherry Bray, LMSW, MPA
Executive Director

First Light, Inc
2230 4th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203





Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Alabama, and, on behalf of our Session, I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

First Presbyterian has sat on the corner of 4th Ave N and 21st St N (now Richard Arrington, Jr. Boulevard, in honor of our city's first African-American Mayor) since the founding of the city. Over the years, our church has experienced many changes to the streets around us, and we believe that this change would have a particularly positive impact on our church, our neighborhood, and the city as a whole. Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Terry Hamilton-Poore, Pastor/Head of Staff
First Presbyterian Church
2100 4th Ave N
Birmingham, AL 35203

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Bonderia Lyons and I currently serve as the President of Fountain Heights Neighborhood Association. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

It has indeed been a pleasure serving the Fountain Heights Neighborhood, its residents as well as the business community. This is my second term as president, so the community and I have had an opportunity to support, foster relationships with existing business owners and looking forward and very excited to the opportunity of welcoming new businesses to the community with the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bonderia Lyons, President Fountain Heights Neighborhood Association



September 11, 2023

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Secretary Pete Buttigieg

Office of the Secretary of Transportation

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE W84-322

Washington, DC 20590

RE: Freshwater Land Trust's Letter of Support for the City of Birmingham, Alabama's 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant - 4th Avenue North Reversion Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Freshwater Land Trust (FLT) is pleased to support the City of Birmingham, Alabama's 2023 U.S. Department of Transportation's Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the 4th Avenue North Reversion Project. The proposed project will convert 4th Avenue North from one-way traffic to two-way traffic between 24th and 9th Street North, an important 15-block stretch in the heart of downtown Birmingham serving a historically disadvantaged, African American community. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on-street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. Streetscape elements will also be implemented on select blocks.

FLT is a conservation nonprofit located in Birmingham with a mission to conserve, connect, and care for environmentally significant land and water in Central Alabama, creating dynamic green spaces for future generations. We are the facilitator of the Red Rock Trail System (RRTS), a network of planned and established off-road trails and bike lanes connecting residents to green spaces, community amenities, and alternative transportation routes. Since 2010, our organization has helped establish over 129 miles of trails in Jefferson County, Alabama, and we continue to work with municipalities to encourage and support the growth of a robust outdoor recreation and alternative transportation network.

Since the inception of RRTS, FLT has focused its efforts on developing an equitable trail system that connects residents to parks and greenspaces, encourages economic investment in communities, and provides critical alternative transportation routes throughout the county. To this end, FLT recently completed an ambitious strategic plan to support trail growth in the Greater Birmingham Metropolitan Area. Working closely with community partners and the City of Birmingham, FLT identified areas of opportunity where trail development, in conjunction with planned housing, transit, and





development projects, could spur renewed economic investment and interest in historically underserved communities. The resulting Red Rock Action Plan recommended seven priority trail corridors that, if pursued, would establish a 36-mile robust trail loop around the Greater Birmingham Metropolitan Area that would address many of the health, economic, and transportation needs of our region.

The proposed 4th Avenue North Reversion Project will directly impact and enhance the Civil Rights Trail, the most critical and anticipated trail corridor recommended in FLT's Red Rock Action Plan. Additionally, the proposed reversion of 4th Avenue North back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development, will help reduce the number of crashes occurring at the intersection of 4th Avenue North and 17th Street North, and will further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with a people-centered, rather than car-centered, focus.

FLT enthusiastically supports the City of Birmingham's Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant application for the reversion of 4th Avenue North. This project will create safer roadway conditions for people utilizing diverse modes of transportation in the heart of downtown Birmingham, and it will directly impact and enhance the historic Black Main Street located within the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument. Furthermore, while the City of Birmingham is not required to provide a local match to support the project due to its location within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed \$2 million of funding to ensure this project becomes a reality. For these reasons, FLT strongly recommends funding for the 4th Avenue North Reversion Project.

Sincerely,

Rusha Smith

Rusha Smith
Executive Director
Freshwater Land Trust

cc: Mayor Randall Woodfin, City of Birmingham, Alabama
Director James Fowler, City of Birmingham Department of Transportation



Freshwater Land Trust ▪ PO Box 337 ▪ Birmingham, AL 35201
www.freshwaterlandtrust.org ▪ (205) 417-2777

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

(334) 242-7100
FAX: (334) 242-0937

STATE OF ALABAMA

August 25, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Governor of Alabama, I am writing to express my support for the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant.

The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The City of Birmingham has prioritized this project and committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project. Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development.

I respectfully ask that you give strong consideration to the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey".

Kay Ivey
Governor

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham
Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Greater Birmingham AMBUCS is writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

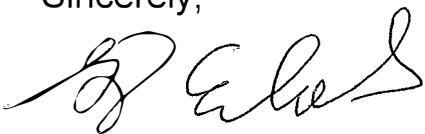
I am Greg Echols the Executive Director of Greater Birmingham AMBUCS. I was a track coach for 44 years, so anything that gives people an opportunity to safely ride bikes/walk or run, we support.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Echols". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

September 12, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As President and CEO of the Greater Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau, I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The Greater Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau is a non-profit agency chartered to market and promote Birmingham and Jefferson County as a destination for meetings, conventions, sporting events, group tours, and domestic and international leisure travel.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at 205-214-9203 or joros@inbirmingham.com.

Best regards,



J. John Oros, Jr.
President & CEO



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Derrick Austin and I represent Hardware Park in the capacity of Director of Innovation. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Hardware Park's campus is located in the heart of the historic Smithfield neighborhood between 4th and 5th Ave North and spans 7th and 9th Street N. Since our founding in 2019 we have worked to enable both startup and mature companies who are building physical product while also fostering a community and atmosphere that supports entrepreneurship and educational initiatives. We desire to not only interact with the people who work in our space every day, but for Hardware Park and the broader Smithfield community to be a truly connected ecosystem working collectively as members building a better Birmingham through tech, manufacturing, and other industries. We support this application as a step in a direction that will allow people, who are the lifeblood of this city, to once again flow into areas that were systematically cut off. We'd also encourage that the scope of work extend beyond 9th Street N to include 6th Street N. This would not only connect the Saint James Baptist Church community but also the green space around Valley Creek and further encourage development in this area of our neighborhood.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based

economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Derrick C. Austin
Director of Innovation



President and CEO
Dontrelle Young Foster

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT

Board of Commissioners
D. G. Pantazis, Jr., Chairman
DeJuana L. Thompson, Vice-Chairperson
Anthony C. Hood, Commissioner
Abra A. Barnes, Commissioner

September 14, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Housing Authority of the Birmingham District (HABD), I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on-street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA-compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

HABD was incorporated in 1935 and is the largest Housing Authority in Alabama and 17th largest in the nation. We oversee over 4,000 public housing units within 13 total communities in Birmingham, including Freedom Manor, which sits within the grant footprint. This grant will help to provide a safer and more accessible sidewalks and transit options for our 100 senior residents who call Freedom Manor home.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the City's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities and the communities that HABD serves.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dontrelle Young-Foster
President and CEO



JEFFERSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1400 6th Avenue South | Birmingham, AL 35233 (205) 933-9110 | www.jcdh.org

Serving Jefferson County Since 1917

Mark E. Wilson, MD
Health Officer

September 8, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As county health officer and chief executive of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), I am writing in support of the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on-street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Our most recent Community Improvement Plan (CHIP) identified transportation as one of five top public health priorities for our community. For more than a decade, JCDH has been a strong advocate and supporter of improvements in the local built environment to improve health by increasing opportunities for all our residents to engage in physical activity and active transportation. Our work alongside the City of Birmingham other partners has included development of the Red Rock Trail System master plan, initially unveiled in 2012 and recently updated. This master plan includes off-street, street-side and complete street infrastructure, and has been guided by health equity principles. This proposed project for 4th Ave N is part of a major corridor in the Red Rock System master plan.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, demonstrating that this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities. If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at (205) 930-1504.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Wilson, MD



LAKESHORE

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods - City of Birmingham
Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am John Kemp, President and CEO of Lakeshore Foundation. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

As an individual with a disability and a leader in disability advocacy, I can tell you that access is essential. As President of Lakeshore Foundation, my hope is to impact our city for change for the betterment of individuals with a disability. According to the CDC and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 36% of Jefferson County adults have some kind of disability, which is higher than the national average. This includes more than 1 in 5 in the City of Birmingham that have a mobility disability. We also know that our citizens with disabilities experience health disparities at very high rates.

Lakeshore Foundation is a fitness and recreation facility that serves individuals with a disability, their family members, and veterans with and without a disability. Our vision is to see a world in which every person has the opportunity to achieve a healthy, active, independent life. That vision is not possible when individuals with a disability can't navigate their streets and neighborhoods. Lakeshore works across a number of sectors including research and advocacy. Through that work we have seen the impact complete streets can have on a community particularly on individuals with a disability. In 2018, we were proud to be part of a coalition that successfully advocated for the adoption of a Complete Streets Ordinance for the City Birmingham.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered



LAKESHORE

design and development. The intersectionality of low-income, minority and disability is well documented. Therefore, it is clear that this project will have significant impact on the disability community allowing access to employment, recreation, and access to goods.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities including individuals with disability.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Kemp". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John D. Kemp

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I work with Lime Scooter, the largest dockless vehicle provider in the world. You might have remembered us from deploying Lime bikes in your home of South Bend, Indiana during your tenure as Mayor. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Founded in 2017, Lime is the largest and most experienced provider of micro mobility services in the world with a strong, hyperlocal focus to ensure that people can move freely in the more than 200+ cities we serve. Lime has served the City of Birmingham for the past year and looks forward to continued collaboration with the City.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert Gardner

Director of Market Expansion, Lime



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As President/State Coordinator of Main Street Alabama, I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for the FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

A nonprofit organization, Main Street Alabama stresses public private partnerships, broad based community engagement, and strategies that create jobs, spark new investment, attract visitors, and spur growth. Main Street builds on the authentic history, culture, and attributes of specific places, to build sustainable change.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the City's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If you have any questions about Main Street Alabama or our work across the state, please feel free to contact me at 205.910.8819 or mary@mainstreetalabama.org

Thank you for your consideration of the City's application for this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Helmer Wirth

Mary Helmer Wirth, CMSM
President/State Coordinator
Main Street Alabama



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

September 6, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As Mayor of the City of Birmingham, I support the Birmingham Department of Transportation's (BDOT) application for the FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

I fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R L Woodfin".

Randall L. Woodfin
Mayor



D. Scott Adams
Executive Vice President, Corporate
Social Responsibility, Strategy
and Innovation
Protective Life Corporation

September 12, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham
Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

My name is Scott Adams and I am Executive Vice President of Corporate Responsibility for Protective Life Corporation. Since its inception in the mid-90s, our corporate foundation has provided nearly \$90M of support to help improve lives and solve difficult social issues.

Today I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

We are currently engaged with our City of Birmingham leadership to reinvigorate five neighborhoods in our city and that effort has included focus on making sure there are pathways to and through our city's areas of commerce that safely carry residents to jobs, food sources, and healthy outdoor spaces. We have been engaged for two years in a Protecting Good program with the City of Birmingham team that installed 100 roofs for little or no charge on homes in the nearby neighborhoods that will likely be benefited from the positive impact of the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce car accidents that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. We understand that the redevelopment area is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty and the City is not required to put forth any match money. Their



D. Scott Adams
Executive Vice President, Corporate
Social Responsibility, Strategy
and Innovation
Protective Life Corporation

commitment to provide an additional \$2M to funds that are awarded shows that this is a priority for Birmingham.

I fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Adams", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Adams

Redemptive Cycles
1305 2nd Ave N Ste 101
Birmingham AL 35203
205.224.563
www.redemptivecycles.com



Secretary Pete Buttigieg

U.S. Department of Transportation

1200New Jersey Ave SE

Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY2023Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Brian Gosdin and I am the Executive Director of Redemptive Cycles in downtown Birmingham, AL. We are a 501(c)3 bike shop dedicated to supplying affordable or free transportation in the form of bicycles to our community. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks. Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham. We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am

certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities. This project is particularly dear to us because it is two blocks from our location.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Gosdin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Gosdin" clearly legible.

Brian Gosdin

Executive Director, Redemptive Cycles

205-410-6303

brian@redemptivecycles.com



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am Charles Ball the Executive Director of The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (RPCGB) and am in full support of the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The RPCGB provides planning services, economic development services and multiple initiatives for six counties and 84 communities throughout central Alabama. Our organization has long been a supporter of maintenance projects in our region that is multimodal.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Charles E. Ball'.

Charles E. Ball, AICP
Executive Director



**ALABAMA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

11 SOUTH UNION STREET, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

REP. JUANDALYNN GIVAN
DISTRICT 60
POST OFFICE BOX 13803
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35202

STATE HOUSE: 334-261-0584
DISTRICT: 205-433-6132
EMAIL: juandalynn@givanlaw.com

September 12, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham
Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am Representative Juandalynn Givan of Alabama and I represent a portion of the city of Birmingham in Jefferson County. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

I fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Juandalynn Givan

Representative Juandalynn Givan



ALABAMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 SOUTH UNION STREET, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

REP. NEIL RAFFERTY
DISTRICT 54
POST OFFICE BOX 321579
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35232

STATE HOUSE: 334-261-0543
DISTRICT: 334-261-0478
EMAIL: neil.rafferty@alhouse.gov

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am the state representative for House District 54 in Jefferson County, Alabama, and I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce traffic accidents that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the City's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the City is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the City has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project to demonstrate how this is a priority for Birmingham's communities.

I am fully in support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my office if any additional information is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Rafferty". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Neil Rafferty



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

TERRI A. SEWELL
7TH DISTRICT, ALABAMA

September 6, 2023

Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the representative of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I submit this letter in support of the City of Birmingham Department of Transportation's application to the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods grant.

If awarded funding, the City of Birmingham Department of Transportation will convert 4th Avenue North from a one-way into a two-way road from 24th Street North to 9th Street North. This will create a street with two-way traffic, transit, protected bike lanes, and ADA-compliant sidewalks and intersections.

Transforming 4th Avenue North would create a safer main street downtown and help strengthen Birmingham's budding downtown bike network by connecting the bike lanes on 20th Street North, 9th Street North, and the planned Urban Trail funded through the recently awarded RAISE Grant.

By supporting these efforts, USDOT can showcase a project that aligns closely with its objectives under the Biden Administration's objectives, including creating an equitable transportation system that works for everyone and transitioning to a more environmentally conscience network that prioritizes non-motorized users.

For these reasons, I support the City of Birmingham Department of Transportation's grant application. I ask for your full and fair consideration. If I or my staff can be of further assistance with this matter, please feel free to contact my office at 205-254-1960.

Sincerely,

TERRI A. SEWELL
Member of Congress



P.O. BOX 320637 BIRMINGHAM, AL 35232-0637
REVBIRMINGHAM.ORG

BIRMINGHAM

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I'm David Fleming, CEO of REV Birmingham. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

REV Birmingham is a place based economic development non-profit organization. Our goal is to create vibrant commercial districts in Downtown Birmingham. We've worked on several complete streets project in our city center including a revitalization of 20th St N.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David B. Fleming
President and CEO, REV Birmingham



ALABAMA

SENATOR RODGER M. SMITHERMAN, ESQ.
MINORITY WHIP

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE 2006-2010
MINORITY RANKING MEMBER
DISTRICT 18 OFFICE
2029 2ND AVENUE N
BIRMINGHAM AL 35203
TELEPHONE (205) 396-3213
CELL (205) 324-2000

ALABAMA STATE SENATE
ALABAMA STATE HOUSE

11 South Union Street, Suite 736
Montgomery, AL 36130-4600
TELEPHONE (334) 261-0870
rodger.smitherman@alsenate.gov

Committees:

Jefferson County Legislation-Vice Chair
Rules
F & T Education
Judiciary
Confirmations
Tourism
Education Policy
Banking & Insurance

Legislative Council
Permanent Jt. Transportation
Military Stability
Energy Council
Housing Finance Authority
Jt. Legislative Policy Committee
Judicial System Study Commission

September 13, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I, Senator Rodger Smitherman, am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Rodger Smitherman

Alabama State Senator

District 18

TOMMY TUBERVILLE
ALABAMA
142 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0107
(202) 224-4124

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

September 11, 2023

RE: FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application, FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

I fully support the City of Birmingham's application for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant, I know they will be great stewards with this funding.

Very Truly Yours,



Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of
Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Fouad H. Fouad, and I lead the Built Environment Team of the UAB Live HealthSmart Alabama initiative. I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The Built Environment Team of Live HealthSmart Alabama works to reduce the burden of chronic diseases and enhance the quality of life of the residents through the design of built environments that promote and support physical activity, connect communities, and provide access to healthy foods. As part of the UAB Live HealthSmart Alabama initiative, we have been working on developing improvement plans that enhance the built environment including sidewalks, lighting, bus shelters, crosswalks, open spaces, and parks among others. The proposed project to convert 4th Ave N will benefit residents by creating safer, more accessible, and more livable communities. These types of initiatives promote health, well-being, social interaction, and economic growth while reducing environmental impacts and increasing overall quality of life.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too

common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. H. Fouad', written in a cursive style.

Fouad H. Fouad, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair Emeritus of Dep. of Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering

Director Emeritus of Sustainable Smart Cities Research Center

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

1075 13th Street South | Birmingham, AL 35233

Phone: (205) 934-8430 | Email: ffouad@uab.edu



Urban Impact, Inc.

1721 4th Avenue North
Suite 102
Birmingham, AL 35203
205.328.1850

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Urban Impact Inc. is writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Urban Impact Birmingham is a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating barriers for Black entrepreneurs and revitalizing historically underserved Black commercial districts and communities. We offer programs and initiatives aligned with our mission to empower Black business owners in this community. Our primary focus is on Birmingham, Alabama, a pivotal location in the Civil Rights Movement, and specifically, the 4th Avenue Business District, a vibrant hub of Black-owned businesses.

As outlined in the "Application for FY 2024 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods - City of Birmingham," we see great potential in reversing the one-way thoroughfare into a two-way space, reminiscent of the historical landscape described in our forefathers' narratives.

This proposed infrastructure improvement for 4th Avenue North has the potential to not only rekindle the stories and legacies of the past but also breathe new life into the corridor. By enhancing the vibrancy of this space, we aim to recapture the spirit that once defined the 4th Avenue Business District, fostering an environment of growth and prosperity for the future.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carla Youngblood', written in a cursive style.

Carla Youngblood, Operations Director

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the 2023-2024 Chair of Mission Advancement for ULI Alabama, I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

ULI Alabama is a local chapter of the Urban Land Institute, a global network of 45,000+ professionals in every sector of real estate development and land use, from private enterprise to public service. The mission of the Urban Land Institute is to shape the future of the built environment for transformative impact in communities worldwide.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities. If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Catherine Stos Jones



August 31, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods - City of Birmingham

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

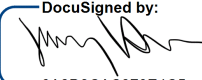
Veo strongly supports City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. As a shared micromobility company, Veo's primary mission is to get people out of their cars and onto safer, greener modes of transit. Having dedicated public spaces that foster safe biking and scooting is imperative to ensuring city residents see these greener modes as reliable options for them to get around.

The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

By supporting these efforts, USDOT can showcase a project that aligns closely with its objectives under the Biden Administration, including enhancing access to opportunities for historically marginalized communities, creating an equitable transportation system that works for everyone, and transitioning to a more environmentally conscious network that prioritizes non-motorized users. This project will deliver healthy, innovative, resilient, and integrated transportation options for residents and visitors of the City of Birmingham. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

Thank you for considering the city's application.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

0A8D3CAC970E4C5...

Jeff Hoover
Director of Government Partnerships, Veo



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham
Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Via Transportation, Inc. (Via), I am writing to support the City of Birmingham's application for an FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

Via is the world's leading provider of TransitTech solutions, including on-demand transit, transit planning, and school transportation. Via partners with cities and transit agencies across the globe, harnessing the power of data to optimize networks of buses, shuttles, wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs), school buses, autonomous vehicles, electric vehicles, and more. Via powers over 600 TransitTech deployments globally and, for each of its deployments, Via configures its system to serve each partners' unique goals while bringing global expertise to bear on local challenges.

Reverting 4th Ave N back to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any match money since the project is entirely within an Area of Persistent Poverty, the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at zack@ridewithvia.com.

Sincerely,

Zack Wasserman
Manager, Via Mobility LLC
Chief Strategy Officer, Via Transportation, Inc.

Central Alabama

309 23rd Street North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

P 205.322.9922

F 205.521.9652

ywcabham.org

August 23, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods- City of Birmingham Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

My name is Dr. LaRhonda Magras, and I am the Chief Executive Officer at the YWCA Central Alabama. I, along with Monica Romano, Chief Operating Officer, are writing to support the City of Birmingham's FY2023 *Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation* grant application. The proposed project will convert 4th Ave N from one-way traffic to two-way traffic for 15 blocks between 24th St N and 9th St N. The result will be a true complete street with two-way traffic, transit, on-street parking, protected bike lanes, and ADA-compliant sidewalks and intersections. There will also be streetscape elements included on select blocks.

The YWCA Central Alabama is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. We are physically located one block away from the proposed project site. Converting 4th Ave N from a one-way street to a two-way street will give our clients even easier access to the services we offer, which will help us fulfill our mission even better.

Reverting 4th Ave N to its historic two-way alignment will help to revive the economy of Birmingham's historic Black Main Street through place-based economic development. It will help reduce crashes that are all too common at the intersection of 4th Ave N and 17th St N, and the overall project concept will help to further advance the city's goal of becoming a multimodal city with people-centered rather than car-centered design and development. While the city is not required to put forth any matching money - since the project is entirely within an area of persistent poverty - the city has committed to matching \$2 million towards the total project, showing this is a priority for Birmingham.

We fully support the city's application for a *Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Implementation* grant. I am certain this project will have a meaningful and sustainable impact on Birmingham's communities.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Dr. LaRhonda Magras
Chief Executive Officer



Monica Romano
Chief Operating Officer