October XX, 2023

Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe FHWA Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP) Grant- BIA 12 Improvement Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, please accept this letter as formal approval of submission of the above noted application and assurance of match commitment.

BIA 12 provides access for the community of Cherry Creek to the community of Eagle Butte on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation. Cherry Creek is a small, isolated community. There are no shopping or health services and limited employment in the community, resulting in residents traveling regularly to Eagle Butte for essential services, amenities, and employment. This roadway is also a critical bus route providing access for children to Eagle Butte and Takini schools.

The BIA 12 roadway is currently a gravel road in poor condition. It experienced several landslides that have caused partial closure of the roadway at various times, resulting in the inability of Chery Creek residents to access critical services in a timely manner. The proposed Project includes stabilizing the roadway base to reduce landslides and then paving the roadway, and inclusion of several safety features, providing year-round, all-weather access, and ensuring the safety of travelers and critical accessibility and connectivity for the residents of Cherry Creek to essential services in Eagle Butte.

The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe is fully committed to the Project. Submission of the grant application has been approved and the Tribe is committed to providing match in the amount of 20 percent, which is a significant contribution given the limited funding available to the Tribal Department of Transportation. The Project is also included as a priority safety project in the Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important Tribal transportation project.

Sincerely,

Harold Frazier
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Council Chair
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Eagle Butte, SD 57625
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