United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

MEMORANDUM

January 30, 2025

To: U.S. Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

From: Lane Adams, Acting-Chief of Police
BIA OJS Crow Agency

LANE ADAMS
Digitally signed by LANE ADAMS
Date: 2025.01.30 15:30:44 -07'00'

Subject: Crow Nation: BIA 91 Highway Reconstruction: Reconnecting Rural Communities
FY2025 RAISE Grant Discretionary Grant Application

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Please consider this letter written confirmation of our full support of the Crow Tribe's application for RAISE grant funding to assist in completion of construction of the BIA 91 Highway Reconstruction: Reconnecting Rural Communities Project (the Project).

This RAISE grant application addresses one of this region's most critical transportation infrastructure needs, positively impacting not just the Tribe but also Big Horn County and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT). The current condition of the BIA 91 corridor presents safety, accessibility, mobility, and connectivity risks. The proposed project will enable the Tribe to address roadway damage, and identified safety concerns, ensuring that the roadway meets current safety standards and alleviates the need for significant traveler detours to surrounding, less direct routes. Completion of the project will ensure ongoing access to essential services as well as rehabilitate and maintain a safe route for transit buses, school buses, agricultural trailers and vehicles, and emergency/first responder vehicles that need BIA 91 to access and connect very rural and remote communities both on and off the Reservation.

BIA 91 is the number one transportation infrastructure priority of the Crow Tribe. It has been consistently listed in Tribal Transportation Safety Plans, and, over the past two years, the Tribe has invested substantial financial resources to complete planning activities, resulting in a "shovel ready" project. Additionally, the Tribe is investing significant match funds over the next three to

five years, to ensure completion of the entire 44.8 miles of the Project corridor. Maintenance of the existing roadway has been increasingly difficult and expensive. Continued extreme weather conditions have added to the deterioration of the transportation infrastructure, increasing safety concerns, and the Tribe is anxious to move forward with reconstruction, ensuring safe, consistent, and accessible access to multiple reservation communities.

We hope you will support this project through a RAISE grant award. We look forward to the opportunity to partner with tribal transportation, and with USDOT on this exciting endeavor. Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Lane Adams
Acting-Chief of Police
BIA OJS Crow Agency
Crow Agency, MT