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November 9, 2023

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write today to request full and fair consideration of the Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP) grant application from the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (CRST). Specifically, the CRST's grant application is for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Route 12 Cherry Creek to South Dakota Highway 63 Improvement Project. The Tribe intends to pave and reconstruct 18 miles of roadway connecting Cherry Creek, South Dakota to South Dakota Highway 63 on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation.

The current condition of the road presents challenges to emergency responders, commerce, road maintenance crews and the traveling public. Project managers intend to repair washouts, slide areas and other hazardous portions of the roadway. In demonstrating their commitment to this project, the CRST is prepared to provide a 20% match to help accomplish the purposes of the NSFLTP.

With the completion of this project, the community can expect to have a new and safer roadway that will connect local residents to essential services and opportunities in Eagle Butte, South Dakota, the Tribe's headquarters. I am thankful for the work that the U.S. Department of Transportation has done in South Dakota and would appreciate your full and fair consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator

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