

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

August 29, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write once again this year in support of the Monongalia County Commission's application for funding of the I-79 Chaplin Hill Gateway Project through the MPDG Program

As the Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, I am proud to have spearheaded bipartisan legislation that will directly invest in our nation's infrastructure needs. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will provide transformational support to our communities, and I am happy to see the positive effects this legislation is already having in West Virginia.

Monongalia County is one of the fastest-growing regions of West Virginia, making the need to upgrade infrastructure even more urgent. In order to support recent economic expansion and provide increased access to community resources in North Central West Virginia, we must ensure that our infrastructure is sound and reliable.

The I-79 corridor has provided substantial economic development opportunities for its surrounding communities. Should funding be awarded, the I-79 Chaplin Hill Gateway Project will upgrade the existing Exit 155 interchange and the adjacent roadway network, as well as replace bridges in poor and fair condition, which have fractural critical components and currently limit highway expansion.

I firmly believe that West Virginia's brightest days are ahead. I am proud to see the Monongalia County Commission directly investing in the future of our state and our fellow Mountaineers. I remain a committed partner to our federal, state, and local entities, working in West Virginia, and I hope you will give their application your full consideration.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator