



April 5, 2022

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

To the Honorable Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the South Texas Military Task Force, we write this letter to support the City of Corpus Christi's (City) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant application for the **Yorktown Boulevard Complete Streets Project (Project)**. The Project, located on the Southside of Corpus Christi, will increase capacity and resiliency of the asset while improving safety conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling along the corridor. Over the past 20 years, many bicyclists, pedestrians, and automobile drivers have died on this dangerous stretch of two-lane roadway.

The **Project** will reconstruct Yorktown Boulevard from Rodd Field Road in the community of Southside to the Oso Creek Bridge east toward the historically disadvantaged area of Flour Bluff, expanding the corridor from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes with a landscaped median, separated bike lanes, and ADA sidewalk on both sides of the road. Drainage improvements are also a critical element of the project. In addition, to further improve this corridor, TxDOT will be participating in the replacement and improvements to the Oso Creek Bridge, known locally as the Mud Bridge.

Without adequate emergency evacuation routes, residents within the Southside and Flour Bluff areas susceptible to storm impacts. This road way is one of the only two designated emergency evacuation routes to usher traffic movement inland from Flour Bluff including Yorktown Boulevard and SH 358. Yorktown Boulevard is the only alternative evacuation route to SH 358 because it also crosses the Oso Bay. The **Project** is the next step in the City's effort to improve community resilience by improving east-west service capacity for the area's only other evacuation alternative. The project will also improve community connectivity and provide critical safety improvements for residents and visitors to the area through multimodal facilities and access management.

The Yorktown Boulevard corridor is vital to local economic and community development in the Southside and Flour Bluff areas and is a primary roadway for thousands of civilians and military who work on Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kresten Cook". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

Kresten Cook
Executive Director, South Texas Military Task Force
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