



Office of the Superintendent

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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 Corpus Christi Independent School District, I 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)**.

This initiative is especially important to us as a large, urban public school district whose properties include schools and schools-in-progress in the areas that would benefit from the **Project**. We take our role as Corpus Christi's largest public school district seriously, and work diligently to be a good neighbor as well as provide a high quality public education.

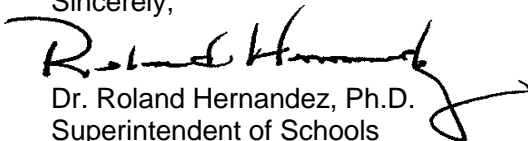
Yorktown Boulevard runs parallel to Texas State Highway (SH) 358, through areas experiencing population growth and expanding development. Our newest elementary school, opening in 2023, will be located in this area, and we foresee adding a middle school in this area as well.

The **Project** will reconstruct Yorktown Boulevard from Rodd Field Road to the Oso Creek Bridge east toward a historically disadvantaged area of town, expanding the corridor from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes with a landscaped median, delineated cycling lanes, and an 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, TX DOT 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 designated area are vulnerable to hurricane impacts. For emergency evacuations, the City includes two designated emergency evacuation routes to usher traffic movement inland, including Yorktown Boulevard and SH 358. SH 358 is a limited access freeway that crosses Oso Bay and is the only connection to Padre Island. 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.

The Yorktown Boulevard corridor is vital to local economic and community development in our City. For Corpus Christi ISD, the **Project** will provide safe passage to and from school for our employees, our students and their families.

Sincerely,


Dr. Roland Hernandez, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Every student a learner...Every learner a graduate...Every graduate a success!