

BUTLER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Serving the local business community since 1896.

"We Mean Business"

April 30, 2024

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

**RE: Gateway 228 – Mars RR Bridge Extension Project
Butler County, Pennsylvania**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express the full support of the Butler County Chamber of Commerce for the Mars Railroad Bridge Extension Project and the associated funding request through the United States Department of Transportation's FY 2025-2026 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity (MPDG) program.

The Mars Railroad Bridge Extension Project represents a crucial step forward in enhancing the transportation infrastructure of Butler County, addressing significant challenges related to traffic congestion, safety, and economic growth. As one of the largest business advocacy organizations in Western Pennsylvania, with nearly 1,200 members, the Butler County Chamber of Commerce is deeply invested in initiatives that promote economic development, improve quality of life, and foster community prosperity.

We understand the importance of this project not only for our business community but for all residents of Butler County. By completing the Mars Railroad Bridge Extension, we will not only enhance safety and alleviate congestion along Route 228 but also facilitate greater connectivity between our communities, schools, and economic hubs. Furthermore, this project aligns with our chamber's mission to advocate for pro-business policies, support community development initiatives, and promote Butler County as an attractive destination for businesses and residents alike.

The Mars Railroad Bridge Extension Project embodies the collaborative spirit and commitment to progress that defines Butler County. It represents an investment in our future, ensuring that our region remains competitive, vibrant, and accessible for generations to come. We urge you to consider this funding request favorably, recognizing the significant benefits it will bring to our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you require any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Jordan Grady, President
Butler County Chamber of Commerce