



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 strong support of the Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber 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.

As a merged organization formed from the Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce, the Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber represents the collective interests of over 1,100 businesses and organizations spanning three counties—Allegheny, Beaver, and Butler. Our membership, which employs nearly 24,000 individuals, encompasses a diverse array of industries and sectors, reflecting the dynamic economic landscape of our region.

At the heart of our mission is a commitment to creating new opportunities for business growth through networking, cooperation, advocacy, and education. We strive to be the leading regional voice and advocate for business growth and economic prosperity, working tirelessly to support initiatives that enhance the competitiveness and vitality of our communities.

The Mars Railroad Bridge Extension Project aligns seamlessly with our chamber's vision and mission. By addressing critical transportation challenges and promoting infrastructure development, this project will not only improve safety and alleviate congestion but also unlock new avenues for economic growth and prosperity across the Pittsburgh North region. The completion of this project is essential for enhancing connectivity between our municipalities, supporting job creation, and fostering a more conducive environment for business investment and expansion.

We urge you to consider this funding request favorably, recognizing the significant impact it will have on our region's economic vitality and overall quality of life. The Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber stands ready to support and advocate for initiatives that advance our shared vision of business growth and economic prosperity.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Boltz'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the 'z'.

Jim Boltz

President