

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



d. Office of the Director

December 10, 2021

Charles Allen
Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

Re: RAISE Grant Application for Benning Road Bridges and Transportation Improvements

Dear Chairman Charles Allen:

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) would like to thank Transportation Planning Board for its support in our application for a 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant to construct the Benning Road Bridges and Transportation Improvements Project. We are pleased to inform you that the application was successful and DDOT has been awarded \$15 million to support the project for use before September 30, 2024.

The project will have an immediate impact on safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. Upgrading substandard sidewalks to ADA-compliance and constructing high-visibility crosswalks will improve safety for non-motorized travelers while reconfiguring the Benning Road interchange with DC-295 will improve motorist safety and mobility. The project will repair multiple bridges that are more than 50 years old, reducing maintenance and operation costs. By improving multimodal infrastructure, the project will attract more cyclists and pedestrians, helping to reduce emissions.

It was only with the great show of support from Mayor Muriel Bowser, elected officials, businesses & community groups, and residents that DDOT won this discretionary funding award. This important project will have a positive effect on quality of life for the residents of the District of Columbia by improving equitable access to transit services for historically disadvantaged communities and helping to secure Washington, DC's place as a leader in sustainable transportation.

Thank you again for your work to support this project and I look forward to future opportunities to partner in creating a safe, sustainable, and reliable multimodal transportation network.

Kind Regards,

Everett Lott
Acting Director