CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

DELEGATION OFFICE STATE OF NEW MEXICO HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 26, 2024

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

RE: U.S. Department of Transportation, Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (FR-RCE-24-001), City of Clovis

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Members of the New Mexico Delegation write in support of the City of Clovis' application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program.

The City of Clovis seeks funding to implement modifications to the Norris Street railroad crossing and to construct a new grade-separated crossing at Martin Luther King (MLK) Jr. Boulevard. These projects are critical for improving accessibility and safety in Clovis, where the BNSF Class I main rail line runs through the city. Currently, north-south traffic relies on two bridges and two heavily trafficked at-grade crossings, leading to significant delays and safety concerns.

The proposed improvements will enhance safety and reduce traffic delays by upgrading the existing Norris Street crossing and eliminating the at-grade crossing at MLK Jr. Boulevard. These changes will facilitate the establishment of Quiet Zones, providing additional benefits to nearby hotels and residences by reducing noise pollution. These proposed improvements will

significantly benefit the community by increasing safety for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic and supporting the local economy.

We support the City of Clovis' proposal and request that you give their application full consideration under your agency's guidelines. Please notify us when a decision has been made regarding this application.

Sincerely,

Martin Heinrich

United States Senator

Melanie Stansbury

Member of Congress

Ben Ray Lujan

United States Senator

Teresa Leger Fernandez

Member of Congress