



# APPENDIX B

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT

*RAISE Grant Application*  
SUBMITTED BY:



CITY OF  
**WINOOSKI**  
VERMONT



April 11, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for the new “Winooski River Bridge”

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter as strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont, for the new Winooski River Bridge. VTrans would use the requested funds to create a new multi-modal connection to replace the existing restrictive bridge with a new, safer structure which will promote connectivity and growth in the region.

The Winooski River is a border between the Cities of Burlington and Winooski, with the Winooski River Bridge being the primary access between the two communities. This structure was built in 1929 and is nearing the end of its useful life. On average 25,000 vehicles and numerous pedestrians use the bridge per day, but it is also a major congestion point. The bridge is narrow with substandard sidewalks, has no bicycle corridors and is a safety hazard to those traveling between the two cities. The bridge is a regional constraint, especially during peak travel times, and has become a significant roadblock to regional growth and multimodal connectivity.

This project proposes to replace the existing structure with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts to the community. In addition to correcting current safety hazards and promoting better connectivity between the cities, the new structure will spur economic growth in the area.

This grant would be a significant investment for Vermont. On behalf of the Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association’s Board of Directors and its founding institutions, Champlain College, University of Vermont and University of Vermont Medical Center, I am pleased to offer support for this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Thibault".

Sandra M. Thibault  
Executive Director, CATMA



60 Main Street, Suite 100  
Burlington, Vermont 05401  
802-863-3489  
lccvermont.org

April 7, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for the new "Winooski River Bridge"

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter as strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont, for the new Winooski River Bridge. VTrans would use the requested funds to create a new multi-modal connection to replace the existing restrictive bridge and replace it with a new, safer structure which will promote connectivity and growth in the region.

The Cities of Burlington and Winooski share the Winooski River as a border, with limited crossings connecting the two communities. The primary crossing is the Main Street Bridge over the Winooski River. This bridge is an aging structure built in 1929. It carries 25,000 vehicles per day on average and it is nearing the end of its useful life. While it connects the two cities, it is also a major congestion point. The bridge is narrow with substandard sidewalks and no bicycle facilities and is a safety hazard to the numerous pedestrians and bicyclists as well as motorists who travel between the two cities. This narrow structure is a regional constraint, especially during peak travel times, and it has become a significant roadblock to regional growth and multimodal connectivity.

This project proposes to replace the existing structure with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts to the community. This new structure will provide safe travel for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists; promote greater connectivity between the cities; and spur economic growth in the area.

This grant would be a significant investment for Vermont, and I am pleased to offer my support for this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CZ Davis", written in a cursive style.

Catherine Z. Davis  
President  
Lake Champlain Chamber



April 6, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for the new “Winooski River Bridge”

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Local Motion strongly supports the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont, for the new Winooski River Bridge.

As Vermont’s statewide advocate for active transportation, vibrant communities, and safe streets, Local Motion hears frequently from our constituents about the various infrastructural barriers to walking, biking, and rolling in Chittenden County. The Winooski River Bridge is at the top of that list and is identified as a major barrier in countless studies and plans. As the primary transportation link between the cities of Burlington and Winooski, it is essential that this bridge be made safe and comfortable for walking, biking, and rolling.

Crossing the current bridge by bike, on foot, or using an assistive device is a harrowing experience. People biking are forced to either share the roadway—which lacks shoulders—with four lanes of fast-moving cars, or use the narrow sidewalks, which place riders between the bridge’s railing and a high curb that drops off directly into traffic. People walking and using assistive devices, meanwhile, are faced with poor sidewalks, meager separation from vehicle traffic, and conflicts with people on bikes who resort to riding on the sidewalks. In addition to being deficient in terms of accommodation and safety for people walking, biking, and rolling, this bridge is an aging structure built in 1929 and it is nearing the end of its useful life.

This project proposes to replace the existing structure with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. The new structure will provide safe travel for people walking, biking, and rolling. It will promote greater connectivity between communities, and spur economic growth in the area. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts.

This project would resolve a major barrier to walking, biking, and rolling in Chittenden County, and is aligned with FHWA’s Safe System approach. Local Motion is pleased to support this application.

Sincerely,  
Jonathon Weber  
Complete Streets Program Manager — Local Motion

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathon Weber", is written over a white background.



April 4, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for the new “Winooski River Bridge”

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter as strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont, for the new Winooski River Bridge. VTrans would use the requested funds to create a new multi-modal connection to replace the existing restrictive bridge and replace it with a new, safer structure which will promote connectivity and growth in the region.

The Cities of Burlington and Winooski share the Winooski River as a border, with limited crossings connecting the two communities. The primary crossing is the Main Street Bridge over the Winooski River. This bridge is an aging structure built in 1929. It carries 25,000 vehicles per day on average and it is nearing the end of its useful life. While it connects the two cities, it is also a major congestion point. The bridge is narrow with substandard sidewalks and no bicycle facilities and is a safety hazard to the numerous pedestrians and bicyclists as well as motorists who travel between the two cities. This narrow structure is a regional constraint, especially during peak travel times, and it has become a significant roadblock to regional growth and multimodal connectivity.

This project proposes to replace the existing structure with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts to the community. This new structure will provide safe travel for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists; promote greater connectivity between the cities; and spur economic growth in the area.

This grant would be a significant investment for Vermont, and we are pleased to offer our support for this application. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Cioffi  
President  
GBIC - Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation

**GBIC - Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation**  
**Frank Cioffi, President**  
• 60 Main St., Burlington, VT 05402 •  
Tel. 802.862.5726 ext. 12 • frank@vermont.org • www.gbicvt.org



April 11, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for the new “Winooski River Bridge”

Dear Secretary, Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter as strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont, for the new Winooski River Bridge. VTrans and the cities would use the funds to replace the old, restrictive bridge with a new, safer structure that improves regionwide connectivity, promotes safe walking and biking, reduces congestion, and supports growth in the urban core of Chittenden County that includes areas of persistent poverty and designated opportunity zones.

The Cities of Burlington and Winooski share the Winooski River as a border, with limited crossings connecting the two communities. The primary crossing is the Main Street Bridge over the Winooski River. This bridge is an aging structure built in 1929. It carries 25,000 vehicles per day on average and it is nearing the end of its useful life. The bridge is narrow with substandard sidewalks and no bicycle facilities and is a safety hazard to the numerous pedestrians and bicyclists as well as motorists who travel between the two cities. This narrow structure is a regional constraint, especially during peak travel times, and it has become a significant roadblock to regional growth and multimodal connectivity.

This project proposes to replace the existing bridge with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts to the community. This new structure will provide safe travel for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists; promote greater connectivity between the cities and the region; and spur economic growth in the area.

This grant would be a significant investment for Vermont, and I am pleased to offer my support for this application.

Sincerely,



Charlie, Baker  
Executive Director, CCRPC



April 5, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for the new “Winooski River Bridge”

Dear Secretary, Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter as strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the Cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont, for the new Winooski River Bridge. VTrans would use the requested funds to create a new multi-modal connection to replace the existing restrictive bridge and replace it with a new, safer structure which will promote connectivity and growth in the region.

The Cities of Burlington and Winooski share the Winooski River as a border, with limited crossings connecting the two communities. The primary crossing is the Main Street Bridge over the Winooski River. This bridge is an aging structure built in 1929. It carries 25,000 vehicles per day on average, including five GMT transit routes, and it is nearing the end of its useful life. While it connects the two cities, it is also a major congestion point. The bridge is narrow with substandard sidewalks and no bicycle facilities and is a safety hazard to the numerous pedestrians and bicyclists as well as motorists who travel between the two cities. This narrow structure is a regional constraint, especially during peak travel times, and it has become a significant roadblock to regional growth and multimodal connectivity.

This project proposes to replace the existing structure with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts to the community. This new structure will provide safe travel for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists; promote greater connectivity between the cities; and spur economic growth in the area.

This grant would be a significant investment for Vermont, and I am pleased to offer my support for this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Moore', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jon Moore  
General Manager  
802-540-2527  
jmoore@ridegmt.com



The University of Vermont

**Richard H. Cate**

*Vice President for Finance and Administration*

April 11, 2022

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

RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application for a new Winooski River Bridge

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the University of Vermont, I am writing to express support for the RAISE grant application for a new Winooski River bridge, submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation, in collaboration with the cities of Winooski and Burlington, Vermont. The funds would be used to replace the existing bridge with a new multi-modal connection that will promote connectivity and growth in our region.

The Winooski River bridge provides the primary connection between Burlington and Winooski and is nearing the end of its useful life. This project proposes to construct a new, wider structure with separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. The new structure will provide safe travel for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists; promote even greater connectivity between the cities; and spur economic growth in the area.

UVM has long been committed to providing alternatives to single occupancy vehicle use on and around campus. Through thoughtful planning, education, and the use of Transportation Demand Management strategies, we have been able to significantly lower the use of single occupancy vehicles for our 13,800 students and 4,192 faculty and staff members. These strategies and incentives include:

- Bike/Walk Rewards Program
- Promotion of Bicycle Benefits program
- Discounted membership for the e-bike Bike Share program through the Greenride system
- Access to long- and short-term bicycle parking
- CATS Shuttle on-campus bus service
- Unlimited access to travel off-campus on Green Mountain Transit buses
- Car share program through CarShare Vermont

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION  
350B Waterman Building  
85 South Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05405  
phone (802)656-0219

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer



- Carpool incentives
- Guaranteed Ride Home program

Due to the success of these incentives, UVM has achieved national recognition as a Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Institution. The UVMoves Active Transportation Plan was developed to assist us in becoming the “type of campus where moving without a car is both possible and desirable.” The Winooski River Bridge Project will be instrumental in helping us to achieve that goal by providing a safe and desirable route for our faculty, staff, and students between our campus and the City of Winooski and beyond.

I urge you to fund the Winooski River Bridge RAISE grant application for this important link for multi-modal travel.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Cate  
Vice President for Finance and Administration

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Vermont Agency of Transportation RAISE Grant Application: "Winooski River Bridge"**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Winooski Council supports the RAISE Discretionary Grant application submitted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in collaboration with the City of Burlington for the new Winooski River Bridge. VTrans would use the requested funds to create a new multi-modal connection to replace the existing restrictive bridge and replace it with a new, safer structure which will promote connectivity and growth in the region.

The City of Winooski and Burlington share the Winooski River as a border, with limited crossings connecting the two communities. The primary crossing is the Main Street Bridge over the Winooski River. This bridge is an aging structure built in 1929. It carries 25,000 vehicles per day on average and it is nearing the end of its useful life. While it connects the two cities, it is also a major congestion point. The bridge is narrow with substandard sidewalks and no bicycle facilities and is a safety hazard to the numerous pedestrians and bicyclists as well as motorists who travel between the two cities. This narrow structure is a regional constraint, especially during peak travel times, and it has become a significant roadblock to regional growth and multimodal connectivity.

This project proposes to replace the existing structure with a new, wider structure with barrier-separated multi-use paths on both sides of the bridge. Innovative construction sequencing and techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts to the community.

This grant would be a significant investment for Vermont, and we are pleased to offer our support for this application.

Sincerely,



Mayor Kristine Lott  
City of Winooski





April 11, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

With strong support from the Burlington City Council and the Mayor, our community submits this collaborative RAISE grant application for the generational reconstruction of the US2/7 Winooski River Bridge – one of the busiest and most critical roadway structures in the State of Vermont.

The project will:

- Provide safe, dedicated bicycle and pedestrian facilities across the bridge and thereby close the final gap in the downtown Burlington to downtown Winooski bike/pedestrian network that connects the state's largest population of historically underserved residents.
- Improve safety and congestion for transit and motor vehicles by removing the narrow constraints that create a roadblock to regional growth and connectivity.
- Coordinate with, and connect to, future adjacent transportation improvements in both communities including an important adjacent intersection safety improvement that has a preferred alternative selected.
- Promote a resilient network and protect against a severe regional economic impact from a major traffic disruption due to any future unplanned bridge closure in the state's largest urbanized area.

We understand that a RAISE grant award may require a local match. The City of Burlington, along with the State of Vermont and the City of Winooski, will seek to meet this obligation should a local match be required.

Over the last seven years, Burlington voters have approved two General Fund bond requests, two tax increment financing items, and three municipal utility bonds in order to make historic reinvestments in our aging infrastructure. Together, we can continue this momentum.

We stand ready to deliver on this vital multi-modal link between two of Vermont's most densely populated communities.

Sincerely,

Miro Weinberger  
Mayor

Karen Paul  
City Council President