



City of Brighton

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

June 4, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Brighton is pleased to submit a letter of support for the Rebuilding America's Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant application by the Livingston Essential Transportation Service (LETS) for an East Operations Center/Transit Hub in the amount of \$10 million.

The LETS proposal is consistent with the objectives in the 2019 Livingston County Transit Master Plan, and by funding it, the U.S. Department of Transportation will support a project that will have a significant impact on the local and regional transportation infrastructure, which will create jobs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve economic opportunity for low-income residents.

LETS is currently headquartered west of Howell, but the bulk of its pick-ups and drop-offs occur east in the Grand River Avenue/I-96 corridor from Howell to Brighton. A second facility located closer to these locations would decrease dead-head time for drivers and ride time for passengers, and would enable vehicles to be more readily dispatched to provide transit service in that area.

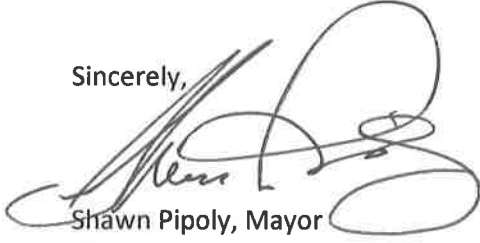
Moreover, a centrally-located, designated space for passengers to access public transit services would help facilitate connections both within and outside the County. In the immediate term, the transit hub would serve as a permanent stop for the existing Michigan Flyer bus service between Brighton and Detroit Metro Airport, which also provides commuter service between Brighton, East Lansing, and Ann Arbor.

Potential future connections include the planned Grand River Avenue bus route and connections with surrounding transit agencies including the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority, the Capital Area Transportation Authority, and the Flint Mass Transportation Authority. Connections to the hub via sidewalks and bike paths, and amenities like bike storage would also foster greater interconnectivity between non-motorized transportation and transit.

A potential location for this hub would be near the I-96 / Grand River Avenue interchange, within the City of Brighton. The City fully supports this significant investment in its transportation infrastructure and encourages your support of the LETS application. Livingston County, located at the major intersection of I-96 and US-23, is an underserved County within the Detroit/Ann Arbor metro area. Access to a robust and reliable public transportation system would greatly improve the County's quality of life and increase transportation opportunities for those without other options, or those who would choose public transportation if it were available.

On behalf of the City of Brighton City Council, I greatly appreciate your consideration of LETS' RAISE grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shawn Pipoly', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Shawn Pipoly, Mayor
City of Brighton
Phone: (810) 227-6552
Email: pipolys@BrightonCity.org