

LIZZIE FLETCHER
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
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September 22, 2022

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

Re: City of Houston Reconnecting Communities Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write regarding the planning grant application submitted to the Department of Transportation by the City of Houston for the Reconnecting Communities: Gulfton and Beyond project. This project will design connections across high-speed roadways to promote economic activity and quality of life in the Gulfton neighborhood.

Located just outside of Loop 610 and south of US 59, the Gulfton neighborhood in Southwest Houston is home to a diverse and international community where more than 50 languages are spoken. Historically, Gulfton has been home to immigrants from Mexico and Central America, with more than 70% of residents speaking Spanish. Recent arrivals have also started to come from other parts of Latin America and the Middle East.

Gulfton is also Houston's most dense and transit-dependent neighborhood. Twelve percent of households in Gulfton do not have vehicles, double the percentage in all of Harris County. The City of Houston and its partner agencies are investing in multimodal transportation options within and outside Gulfton, but legacy infrastructure barriers have presented challenging gaps. The proposed Reconnecting Communities: Gulfton and Beyond study will support the City of Houston as it develops solutions to these barriers, engages its partners and stakeholders, and links these investments into a single, cohesive multimodal network.

This Reconnecting Communities grant award would enhance multimodal accessibility, increase economic opportunities, and improve overall wellbeing for surrounding communities, enabling Houstonians to safely travel from work, school, and other destinations. I hope this request is given all due consideration and a timely response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lizzie Fletcher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lizzie" being more prominent than the last name "Fletcher".

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress