

MARIA CANTWELL
WASHINGTON



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 25090

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's (Tribe) application to the FY 2022 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for the Upland Access Road project.

The Tribe is requesting \$25 million of RAISE funds for the Upland Access Road project. Funds will be used to build an ingress road with utility infrastructure that will provide a starting point to move the Tribe's essential infrastructure and services out of harm's way. The current location of the Tribe's community is vulnerable to the effects of sea rise, storm surges and potential tsunamis. The Tribe has made substantial investments in land on higher ground to prepare for community expansion and has invested significant funds developing a master plan for the project.

The Upland Access Road project will allow for the construction of additional government infrastructure and housing, securing existing jobs, adding additional jobs and providing additional housing for tribal members who had to move off of the reservation due to a lack of housing availability. This project will also allow for the continued planning and development of an economic district within the purchased 4,011 acres. This will provide for the continued growth of the Tribe's economy and help ensure safer conditions for the tribe.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Maria Cantwell".

Maria Cantwell
United States Senator