

United States Senate

November 2, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

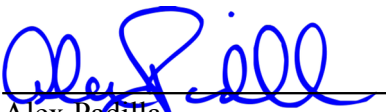
We write to urge the reestablishment of the Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity within the Department of Transportation, which would help ensure that proposed investments in our nation's infrastructure redress historic barriers to mobility and promote economic opportunity for all.

The Committee was established in late 2016 to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation about comprehensive, interdisciplinary issues related to transportation equity. Furthermore, the Committee was formed to strengthen and establish partnerships with other governmental agencies, empower communities to have a meaningful voice in local and regional transportation decisions, and prevent discrimination. Unfortunately, the previous administration failed to convene this Committee and eliminated it in early 2018, nearly a year before its initial charter was set to expire.

We believe that permanently reinstating the Committee would align with the Biden Administration's commitment to integrating equity throughout the President's Build Back Better agenda. We also believe that the Committee would help recognize and address the impact of our transportation infrastructure on climate change, health, housing, disability rights, environmental justice, safety, and other issues through meaningful collaboration.

As we work to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, we must ensure that the historic investments we seek to enact help revitalize communities, connect neighborhoods, and incorporate community input. We urge you to reestablish the Committee to emphasize these goals and foster opportunity in all communities. We look forward to continuing to work with you to support transportation equity and build a better future for all Americans.

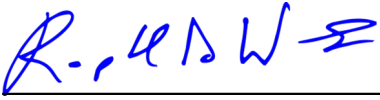
Sincerely,



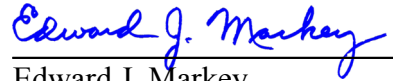
Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



Raphael G. Warnock
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



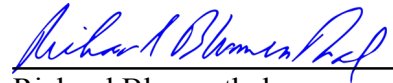
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



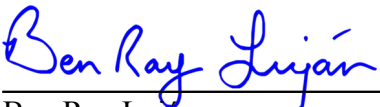
Tina Smith
United States Senator



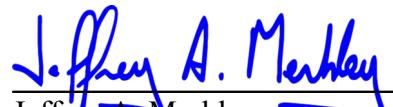
Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



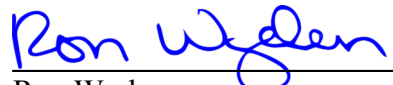
Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



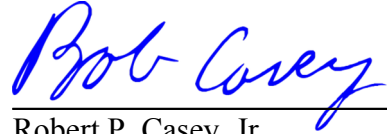
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



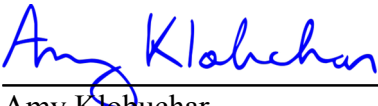
Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator