

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMERCE  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

September 22, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am pleased to support the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) application for Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant program funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation. If awarded, funding would help to support the I-90 WB Safety Rest Area 16-Sparta and Truck Parking Expansion project near Sparta, Wisconsin, allowing WisDOT to reconstruct an important resource for commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) and the traveling public alike.

The Sparta Rest Area serves traffic from Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago, and other regional and national locations as they travel on I-90 WB to La Crosse, Rochester, and beyond. I-90 plays a vital role in the freight of economic goods and passengers across Wisconsin, and a welcoming rest area that meets the needs of all travelers is crucial for safety and the economy. Per WisDOT, insufficient CMV parking and deteriorating pavements, along with outdated and undersized facilities, require reconstruction of this 54-year-old safety rest area, which is one of the oldest in Wisconsin (built in 1969). When reconstructed, the Sparta Rest Area will help alleviate the national CMV parking shortage by providing 70 CMV parking spaces and a staging area for oversized-overweight vehicles. The addition of this site to Wisconsin's Truck Parking Information Management System, which provides real-time parking availability on roadside signs as well as online, will improve efficiency for CMV operators. All drivers will benefit from an upgraded facility featuring better lighting, ADA-compliant restrooms, enhanced vending options, and interior drinking fountains.

I strongly support proposals that help to improve safety and efficiency for CMVs and passenger vehicles on our roadways. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to WisDOT's Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant program application for the Sparta Rest Area project. Please keep my office updated via email at [Projects\\_Grants@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Projects_Grants@baldwin.senate.gov). Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator