

21 June, 2021

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

RE: POIPU ROAD SAFETY AND MOBILITY PROJECT - RAISE GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am the General Manager of Kiahuna Plantation Resort Kauai by Outrigger, a property that fronts Po'ipū Road. On a daily basis, I see both the current safety problems of the existing road and the great potential for its improvement. I strongly support the County of Kauai's RAISE application for the Po'ipū Road Safety and Mobility Project. This project has gone through a long process of planning. The County of Kauai has collaborated with property and business owners from the onset of the process to identify critical needs; develop appropriate plans; and communicate with stakeholders, both individual and businesses.

This project will do more than provide a safer transportation network for local residents and visitors. The improvements will provide a much-needed boost for the island's primary industry, hospitality and tourism. More than ever, now is the time, as the hospitality and tourism industry (our largest) for Kauai and Hawaii, has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am currently working with other Po'ipū resort area leaders in exploring mechanisms for long-term maintenance of the project's enhanced landscape. Po'ipū Road serves as the main gateway and thoroughfare for the Po'ipū resort district. Sharing in the long-term maintenance of the public right-of-way through public-private partnership is a win-win for government and the private sector.

This project is an example of government and the private sector working together to improve the safety, economic vitality, and quality of life for all who visit or live on Kauai.

I appreciate your consideration of this worthy project.

Me ka 'ōia 'i'o,



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