



July 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Always Best Care Senior Services, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer M. Bass". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

Jennifer Bass
Client Services Director
Always Best Care Senior Services

Downtown
WEST MONROE
Revitalization Group

2607 North 7th Street West Monroe, LA 71291
318-388-3920 downtownwestmonroe.org

July 6, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Downtown West Monroe Revitalization Group, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. We've been proud to work with the city over the past few years, as they have made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

As informed by the recent completion of their master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

As you may be aware, in many small and rural communities there are underserved individuals and small businesses that are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. In recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Karen Laban, President

Downtown West Monroe Revitalization Group is a 501 (c)(3) organization and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided in the Internal Revenue Code.

Tax-id # 47-3418877



July 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of First West, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

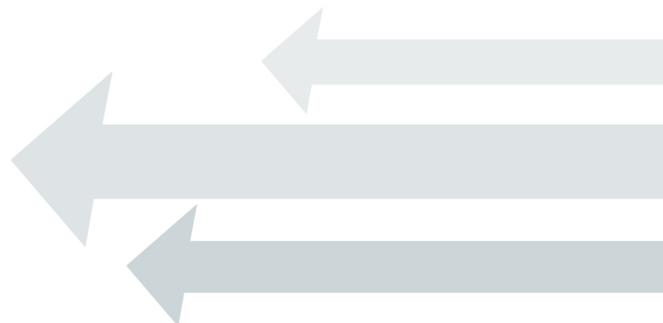
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The West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Michael Wood
Lead Pastor
First West



To see people changed by the Gospel and living out their Christ-centered purpose.

WEST MONROE CAMPUS - 311 Mill Street, West Monroe

FAIRBANKS CAMPUS - 1029 Highway 134, Fairbanks • CALHOUN CAMPUS - 1318 Highway 80, Calhoun, LA 71225.

FIRST WEST (First Baptist Church of West Monroe) Mailing Address / Phone : 500 Pine Street, West Monroe, LA 71291 - 318.322.5104

July 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Flying Heart Brewing and Pub, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

As a company we have put a substantial investment into developing our downtown location. We initially hired 70 full and part time employees with the goal of maintaining 75-100. We estimate \$2.5 to \$3 million in annual sales and have continued plans to host large festival type events such as our July celebration. The brew pub will be open seven days a week and we feel this will lead to more downtown businesses to do so as well.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Jared Wilkinson

Jared Wilkinson
Owner/Operator Flying Heart Brewing and Pub West Monroe

Glenwood Regional Medical Center

A STEWARD FAMILY HOSPITAL



June 28, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Glenwood Regional Medical Center, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

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Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Timmerello, RN, MSN, CEN
President

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



P.O. Box 94004
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9004
(225) 342-7015
GOV.LA.GOV

July 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the State of Louisiana, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bel Edwards".

John Bel Edwards
Governor



LOUISIANA DELTA

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

June 28, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

So many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

We strongly support the efforts of the City of West Monroe as they seek funding for this project and improving the quality of life for their citizens.

Sincerely,

Randy Esters, Ed.D
Chancellor

C O U R A G E . A T T I T U D E . K N O W L E D G E .



July 7, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Discover Monroe-West Monroe is the marketing organization for all of Ouachita Parish. We support the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. We have worked with the city on numerous projects to improve our area. The city has made significant investments into public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to improve quality of life for the residents.

Research was done and completed with a master plan for the City of West Monroe. The RAISE Grant will benefit our community and visitors with shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic. The possibilities through improved connectivity throughout the community, complying with ADA accessibility standards, will provide positive change and access for all. The West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the City of West Monroe's 2021 RAISE grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alana Cooper".

Alana Cooper
President/CEO





NORTH LOUISIANA ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

June 30, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the North Louisiana Economic partnership (NLEP), I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Justyn B. Dixon
President



OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Monroe

West Monroe

Ouachita Parish

3000 KILPATRICK BLVD • MONROE, LOUISIANA 71201

July 6, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of Ouachita Council of Governments, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application. If you have any questions, please contact me at (318) 387-2572.

Sincerely,

Doug Mitchell,
Executive Director

Ouachita Parish Police Jury

P.O. Box 3007 • Monroe, Louisiana 71210-3007

(318) 327-1340 • FAX (318) 327-1339

District A
Scotty Robinson

District B
Jack Clampit

District C
Larry Bratton

District D
Michael Thompson

District E
Shane Smiley

District F
Lomie Hudson

July 13, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Shane Smiley
President
Ouachita Parish Police Jury



Office of the President

University Library 632 | 700 University Avenue | Monroe, LA 71209
P 318.342.1010 | F 318.342.1019

July 7, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the West Monroe Revitalization Project Fiscal being submitted by the City of West Monroe for the Year 2021 RAISE grant program. The City has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in our Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

As we all realize, connectivity is extremely important, especially in rural communities seeking to improve the living and working conditions for its citizens and businesses. The West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your consideration of this community changing project.

Sincerely,

Ron Berry, President
University of Louisiana Monroe

#TAKEFLIGHT



July 6, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the West Monroe Community Center, I would like to express my full support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into its public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars. This has increased the region's economic competitiveness and improved quality of life for the 180,000 residents located in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths; improving drainage to reduce flooding; burying aging utilities; and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

In too many small and rural communities, underserved individuals and small businesses are disadvantaged economically by their lack of connectivity. Recognizing these challenges as a barrier to widespread economic prosperity in West Monroe and throughout Northeast Louisiana, the West Monroe Revitalization Project will serve as the catalyst to improve safety, increase environmental sustainability, enhance quality of life, bolster economic competitiveness and, more importantly, address inequities to increase the economic mobility for all who live here.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valisia Tisdale".

Valisia Tisdale
Manager, West Monroe Community Center



WEST MONROE HIGH SCHOOL

201 Riggs Street • West Monroe, Louisiana 71291 • Phone: (318) 323-3771 • Fax: (318) 388-4594

Shelby Ainsworth, Principal

June 28, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of West Monroe High School, I would like to express my steadfast support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE Grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. I have been a very fortunate employee of the Ouachita Parish School System for thirty-four years. Twenty-five of those years have been spent at West Monroe High School where we continue to enjoy the benefits of tremendous community support. So many of the successes and accomplishments made here at our school have been a result of the stabilizing strength and encouragement we receive from a community which desires to champion honorable causes. We feel as though we have a wonderful partnership with our city. Beginning with our mayor, the leadership of our city officials to restore and enhance the quality of life in West Monroe has been nothing short of steady and progressive.

The infrastructure and connectivity improvements which stand to be made under the RAISE Grant would greatly enhance the safety of our students, both on and off campus. Geographically, our campus is located in the heart of the area designated to be revitalized. Due to past deteriorating conditions of our school's neighborhood, West Monroe High School has worked with the Ouachita Parish School Board for several years to purchase properties surrounding our campus. These efforts are still proving to be highly successful, but a considerable amount of work remains to be done to enhance the overall educational environment encompassing our campus.

A thorough observation of the targeted area would provide one with the evidence of the challenges and barriers to widespread economic prosperity and environmental quality here in West Monroe. The city has already made significant investments to improve the quality of life in our community. Speaking on behalf of the administration at West Monroe High School, we would certainly welcome the improvements and enhancements that would be brought to this area by the West Monroe Revitalization Project.

Thank you for your consideration of our very worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

Shelby Ainsworth
Principal
West Monroe High School

Assistant Principals: Amanda Green • Dan Lane • Cody Lewis • Robyn Pierce • James Remedies
Guidance Counselors: Jimmie Ann Grant • Barbara Gray • Monya Martin • Vanessa Tolar • Esther Townsend
Coordinators: Richie Grant • Corie Williams • Angel Wilson



June 29, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the West Monroe West Ouachita Chamber of Commerce, we are pleased to commit our support for the City of West Monroe's Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grant application for the West Monroe Revitalization Project. Over the past few years, the city has made significant investments into their public infrastructure by leveraging local funding with state, federal, and private dollars to increase the region's economic competitiveness and improve quality of life for all of the 180,000 residents. These improvements reveal the benefits as more businesses want to invest in our city through expansion of business and new occupancy.

Informed by recently completed master plans and studies, the West Monroe RAISE Grant will benefit local and commercial traffic by reconstructing deficient roadways, adding shared use pedestrian facilities including bike paths, improving drainage to reduce flooding, burying aging utilities, and redesigning the streetscape to increase foot traffic, improve connectivity throughout the community, and comply with ADA accessibility standards.

Our organization represents more than 650 local businesses. We understand that upgraded infrastructure in a given community is critical to business success and economic growth. The energy in West Monroe is electrifying. We are proud to support Mayor Mitchell, and the City of West Monroe's Revitalization Project.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amanda Hatten Edge".

Amanda Edge, Chairman
West Monroe West Ouachita Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Snow".

Sheila Snow, Chair Government Advocacy Committee
West Monroe West Ouachita Chamber of Commerce