



July 7, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As the Mayor of Commerce City, Colorado, I write to support Denver International Airport's application to obtain a 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to facilitate planning for the future of the airport's sole entry corridor, Peña Boulevard. Denver International Airport (DEN) is the largest economic contributor to Colorado and the future of this transportation corridor is integral to the success of the airport, its surrounding communities, and the region.

As you know, the FAA prohibits the use of airport revenue for nonaeronautical purposes. Based on the increase of non-airport use of Peña Boulevard to access surrounding development, the FAA determined that, for the approximately 6 mile western segment of Peña Boulevard, DEN may only fund a portion of the maintenance, capital improvement costs, and future debt service. The remainder must be funded by a non-airport source. Therefore, to maintain and grow this vital regional arterial, DEN must find other sources of revenue.

As the 5th busiest airport in the US in 2019, millions of passengers depend on Peña Boulevard for access, along with the 30,000 badged employees and the residents and workers in the surrounding area. Given the airport's role in our state and regional economy, it is critical that planning for the future of Peña Boulevard be funded and proceed.

For these reasons, I strongly support Denver International Airport's application for a 2021 RAISE grant.

Respectfully,

Benjamin A. Huseman
Mayor
Commerce City