



3/30/22

Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: RAISE Grant Application for the Rio Grande Corridor Multimodal Transportation Project in Alamosa, CO

Dear Grant Review Committee,

The Alamosa City Council is asking you to consider our city's 2022 RAISE grant application in support of the Rio Grande Corridor Multimodal Transportation Project.

In the 2017 update of the City of Alamosa's Comprehensive Plan, residents ranked "embracing the Rio Grande Corridor" as the top service priority for the Alamosa Parks and Recreation Department. This support transcends demographics and is consistent across educational, religious, business, and health stakeholder groups. Furthermore, our residents ranked trail development as the highest service priority for the entire City, even ahead of fixing streets and adding more police officers. The proposed pedestrian bridge as outlined in the grant application would help City leadership fulfill some of the biggest needs in our community as identified by our constituents.

The City of Alamosa for decades has been planning and pursuing a pedestrian bridge near Adams State University's Campus. The location of the pedestrian bridge as outlined in this grant application was first identified in 2017 in the River Corridor Improvements Feasibility Study completed by Riverbend Engineering and paid for in part by the City of Alamosa.

Alamosa City Council strongly affirms that now is the time for implementation of this project. The benefits of this project to the Alamosa community will be numerous. The bridge will allow residents of north Alamosa to access the Alamosa City Ranch and downtown Alamosa on foot, bike, and via other active forms of transportation. The activation of this City greenway will have significant quality of life implications for locals and will improve physical and mental health outcomes by promoting healthy lifestyles. Additionally, this bridge project will promote tourism and economic resiliency as our region looks to diversify a predominantly agricultural economy with ongoing drought and declining aquifers threatening our farmers. Finally, the activation of this river corridor for multimodal transportation will improve safety in our communities as pedestrians and cyclists will have access to a dedicated path away from heavily trafficked roadways.

We thank you for considering this much needed project for 2022 RAISE funding. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

[Insert Signature][Insert name][Insert title(s)]

[Insert Contact Information]