

United States Senate

March 17, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support for the Marshall County Highway Department's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* discretionary grants program. Funding from this program will be used to realign and reconstruct a one mile section of County Highway 6 which is one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure in the regional highway system.

Marshall County has a population of 11,438 and is considered part of the Peoria, Illinois Metropolitan Statistical Area. The Marshall County Highway Department manages approximately 800 miles of roads and 150 bridges. The Department has completed several highway project improvements in the last five years that include Tax School Road, Yankee Lane, McNabb Blacktop Road Improvement project, Bottom Road Bridge Replacement project and numerous local bridge replacement projects. County Highway 6 is a vital link in the regional transportation system that connects the areas west of the Illinois River to the industries and grain facilities located along the River. There is a one mile portion of the highway that has dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 miles per hour. This section is considered unsafe, is prone to bottlenecking and inefficient for freight traffic. The Department is seeking funds to restore and restructure this section of the highway which would increase safety, support increased freight traffic and ensure rural areas of the region stay economically competitive.

As a U.S. Senator and member of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, modernizing Illinois' infrastructure and transportation systems is a top priority. This project supports the core goals of the *RAISE* program by improving regional connectivity, increasing safety and supporting domestic manufacturing.

Please accept this letter of support for the Marshall County Highway Department's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)* discretionary grants program. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge you to give the application full and fair consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my Downstate Director, Randy Sikowski, at (217) 528-6124.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 1, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my support of Marshall-Putnam County Highway's application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program to fund improvements for the realignment and reconstruction of County Highway (CH) 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

Marshall County is applying for RAISE funding to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. CH6 is a 13 mile straight and level truck route, however this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation and commerce.

I encourage your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application and within all relevant rules and regulations, I urge your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or my office at 202-225-6201.

Sincerely,

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress



WIN STOLLER

STATE SENATOR • 37TH DISTRICT
SENATORSTOLLER@GMAIL.COM • WWW.SENATORSTOLLER.COM

February 10, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

CAPITOL OFFICE:
105B STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
(217) 782-1942

DISTRICT OFFICE:
5415 N. UNIVERSITY
SUITE 105
PEORIA, IL 61614
(309) 693-4921

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,


I am very writing to share my support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois. This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Respectfully,



Win Stoller
State Senator, 37th District

☐ DISTRICT OFFICE:
5407 NORTH UNIVERSITY STREET
ARBOR HALL, SUITE B
PEORIA, IL 61614
309/690-7373
FAX: 309/690-7375
EMAIL: reprianspain@gmail.com



COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS - HUMAN SERVICES
BUSINESS INCENTIVES FOR LOCAL COMM.
CITIES & VILLAGES
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
MENTAL HEALTH
PUBLIC UTILITIES
TRANSPORTATION: VEHICLES & SAFETY

☐ CAPITOL OFFICE:
228-N STRATTON BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
217/782-8108
FAX: 217/782-1275

RYAN SPAIN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE - 73RD DISTRICT

February 15, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please consider this my letter of strong support for the Marshall County RAISE Grant application requesting funding for the realignment and reconstruction of County Highway 6 (CH 6) west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities have occurred on this stretch.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of county highway system infrastructure. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

Funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. Please give every consideration of this grant application for \$4 million in RAISE grant funding. I recommend this project without reservation for a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan Spain".

SERVING THE CITY OF PEORIA NORTH OF NORTHMOOR ROAD, THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN TOWNSHIPS IN PEORIA COUNTY, INCLUDING CHILLICOTHE, DUNLAP, PRINCEVILLE, BRIMFIELD, ELMWOOD, SOUTHERN PORTION OF BUREAU AND LASALLE COUNTIES, MARSHALL COUNTY, STARK COUNTY AND WESTERN WOODFORD COUNTY.

RECYCLED PAPER • SOYBEAN INKS

CITY OF HENRY



February 08, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: RAISE Grant Program's Regional Economic Importance to Marshall County, Illinois

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the City of Henry, our regional economy, and the driving safety of our community, I am asking you and your staff to carefully consider Marshall County's RAISE Grant program application for the grave need of realignment and reconstruction of County Highway 6 west of Henry, Illinois. The safety issues surrounding this mile long stretch of CH 6 are numerous. Also numerous is the county engineering staff's past efforts to secure federal assistance for a county of less than 12,000 residents. However, I am confident that your new administration will consider the below points and support it just as our small, hardworking community does.

Safety

Locally known as the "Western Curves", this mile long, 'improved' wagon road section of CH6 has produced many vehicle crashes due to the roadway winding through the steep river bluffs and therefore having, numerous blind curves, steep grade, narrow pavement and bridges, no safety shoulders, and steep ditches.

The existing roadway wasn't constructed to handle the weight and size of today's agricultural combines, tractors, and implements as well as the grain and commercial semi- trucks that use this route daily.

The aforementioned blind curves and steep, narrow conditions make daily school bus stops within the "Western Curves" an anxious event for parents, bus drivers as well as drivers passing through.

Economic Transportation

The Illinois River adds \$36 Billion dollars to the Illinois economy and CH 6 is a primary truck route linking north-south running State Highway 40 and the agricultural farms and industries of Stark, Bureau and western Marshall counties to the grain and industrial facilities along the banks of the Illinois River. Those facilities include the Port of Henry, the Heart of Illinois (Regional) Port District, and Marquis Energy, the nation's 2nd largest ethanol plant.

RAISE's funding support of CH 6 improvements will fit hand-in-hand with the Illinois Department of Transportation's plans to replace Route 18's 85-year-old steel bridge across the Illinois River, located only 3 miles east of the 'Western Curves'.

CH 6's intersection with State Routes 18 and 29 in Henry is not only an important transportation node but also an important commercial center to Henry.

I appreciate your strong consideration of Marshall County's CH 6 RAISE application. Feel free to contact me about any of the important points shared above.

Best Regards,

Jeff Bergfeld
Mayor, City of Henry, 815-303-3996 (m) jeff@henry-il.com.

...on the Illinois River...

Feb 14, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 connects to Castleton Road in Stark County and is a vital link connecting our county to the Illinois River grain facilities and other agricultural industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Curry".

Alan Curry
Stark County Board Chair

Henry-Senachwine Community Unit District 5

1023 College Avenue

Phone: 309/364-3614

Henry, Illinois 61537

Fax: 309/364-3217

Dr. Michael S. Miller
Superintendent

Dr. Jon Hill
High School Principal
1023 College Ave., Henry, IL 61537
Ph: 309-364-2829 Fax: 309-364-2990

Dr. Julie Nelson
Grade School Principal
201 Richard St., Henry, IL 61537
Ph: 309-364-2531 Fax: 309-364-2000

February 22, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

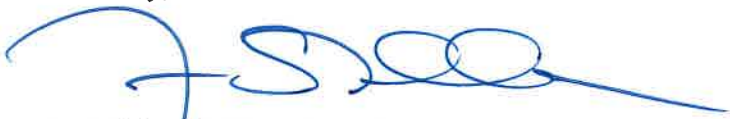
This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Miller, Superintendent
Henry-Senachwine CUSD #5



**509 Front Street, Suite 1
Henry, Illinois 61537
(309)364-2501**

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

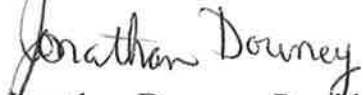
Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Marshall-Putnam Farm Bureau, I am writing in support of Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program, for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6, west of Henry, Illinois. Agriculture is the primary economic driver within the county and CH 6 is a vital link to connecting areas west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and industries located there. This roadway is significantly important to our area as well as surrounding counties.

Over the last twenty years, there has been approximately 100 accidents on this stretch of road, four of them proving fatal. A newly redesigned roadway will ensure the safety of our motorists.

We believe that the funding of this project is critical to long-term sustainment of our local economy and will aid in the continued development of the river port in Henry, Illinois. I respectfully ask for your consideration of the Marshall County application for funding.

Sincerely,
Marshall-Putnam Farm Bureau


Jonathan Downey, President



613 W Marquette Street Ottawa, Illinois 61350



April 14, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Duane Calbow".

Duane Calbow
Economic Development Planner

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,



Dan Harms

Store Manager

1350 Western Ave. Henry IL. 61534

C. 309.208.7141 | O. 309.364.2336

[Birkeys.com](https://www.birkeys.com) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/birkeys) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/birkeys) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/birkeys)



February 17, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,

Kathi Kazala

Kathi Kazala
Senior Asset Manager
Orion Energy Group LLC
155 Grand Ave #706
Oakland CA 94612

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

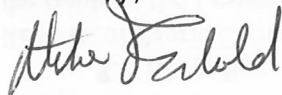
CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Our core grain and fertilizer customers are to the west of CH 6 and this enhancement to the east would minimize their logistics cost immensely not to mention a better access to the Illinois river, said Mike Rumbold (Rumbold & Kuhn president).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Rumbold", written over a faint, illegible background.

Mike Rumbold

President

Rumbold & Kuhn, Inc.

14890 Township Road 300N

Wyoming, IL 61491

Feb. 16, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am very pleased to write in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois.

This existing CH 6 section is a winding, hilly roadway that is unsafe and inefficient for truck traffic. Out of a 13 mile straight and level truck route, this one-mile section has several dangerous curves with design speeds dropping to 25 mph. Over the last twenty years there has been approximately 100 accidents including four fatalities.

CH 6 is a vital link connecting areas to the west of the Illinois River to grain facilities and other industries along the Illinois River. The project will provide an improved connection in the region for highway, rail, and barge transportation.

Successful receipt of this funding will allow Marshall County to realign and reconstruct one of the most heavily traveled and critical pieces of infrastructure on the county highway system. The reconstructed roadway will provide a safer, more efficient transportation link for freight trucks that will be viable for 20 years without additional investment.

I believe that funding for this project is critical to long-term sustainment of the local economy and will aid in the continued development of the much-needed river port in Henry, Illinois. It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask for your full and fair consideration of Marshall County's application for funding through a RAISE grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allan Coppage", written over a horizontal line.

Regional Operations Manager
River Valley Cooperative

Wilson

Insurance Agency, Inc.



329 Edward Street

Henry, Illinois 61537

309-364-2342

March 28, 2022

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing you in support of the Marshall County's application to the RAISE Grant program for the realignment and reconstruction of CH 6 west of Henry, Illinois. I can speak from experience, this 1-mile section of highway is a winding, hilly roadway that has dangerous curves and is unsafe. Over the past 20 years there has been over 100 accidents and 4 fatalities that have occurred. The proposed realignment and reconstruction that could prevent future accidents and loss of life from occurring.

I was a member of the Henry Fire Department for 49 years that retired last year and personally responded to many of these accidents. I am also a co-owner of the Wilson Insurance Agency, Inc. in Henry, Illinois and have had some of our policyholders involved in these accidents, costing them and their insurance companies significant financial losses or loss of life, that could have been avoided with a safer and more efficient roadway.

I believe the successful funding of this project will only make life safer for the area residents as well as the high volume of traffic that uses CH 6. It will also aid in the local economy and development of the Henry area, especially with our future river port truck traffic, that is currently under construction in Henry, Illinois.

Thank you for your time and consideration with my request for your support of this much needed roadway project!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mike Steele'.

Mike Steele – Vice President
Wilson Insurance Agency, Inc.