## ANDRÉ CARSON 7th District, Indiana

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1407

DC OFFICE 2135 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1407 (202) 225-4011

DISTRICT OFFICE

300 E FALL CREEK PKWY N Dr. #300
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46205
(317) 283-6516

SENIOR WHIP

April 27, 2021

Chairman Peter DeFazio Ranking Member Sam Graves Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure US House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding of \$16,000,000 for Indianapolis' Monument Circle/Market Street Reconstruction Project in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor is the City of Indianapolis, and the project is located at Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Monument Circle was completed in 1902 and has not undergone a significant overhaul in the last 120 years. It was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1973.

The funding is designated for the reconstruction of Market Street, which links city and state government, providing connectivity between the Indiana State Capitol and the City-County Building, and has become a destination for locals and visitors alike. Failed and aging brick pavers and outdated design have resulted in costly annual maintenance. The reconstruction of Market Street will activate this public space and reduce ongoing operational costs for generations to come. Like the Indianapolis Cultural Trail, improvements to Market Street will significantly enhance the economic development potential for the entirety of downtown Indianapolis. The improvements will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike, providing a multimodal transportation solution to drive economic development and restore the post-pandemic vitality of downtown Indianapolis.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to be beneficial. The City has currently invested significantly to kick-start the project, completing the environmental documentation process for all of Market Street between the State Capitol and the City-County Building. Additionally, repair of the Market Street segment between Delaware and Alabama Streets is currently under construction and will be completed later this year, repair of the segment

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between Illinois Street and Monument Circle will also be completed later this year, and design of the segment between Pennsylvania and Delaware Streets is approximately 50 percent complete. The additional funding will benefit the taxpayers of Indianapolis significantly by serving to continue positioning Indianapolis as a city of vision, a city that values community, and a city that is continually planning for growth and development.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

André Carson Member of Congress