



COUNTY OF LEHIGH
Department of General Services

Richard D. Molchany
Director of General Services

June 25, 2019

Becky A. Bradley, AICP
Executive Director
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
961 Marcon Blvd., Ste. 310
Allentown, PA 18109

Re: United States Department of Transportation, Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant 2019: Riverside Drive Multimodal Revitalization Corridor Project

Dear Ms. Bradley:

We're writing to offer our financial commitment and support for the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission request for a BUILD grant.

This transformative 3.25-mile project not only closes Pennsylvania's highest priority trail gap, but it reclaims a vacated rail corridor and crosses through several municipalities, while becoming a centerpiece of a more than \$300 million brownfields redevelopment project known as the Waterfront, in the City of Allentown.

The two-lane thoroughfare, paired with a 10-foot hiking and biking trail, will provide the connective tissue for a project that will include a Riverwalk, public plazas, floating docks and a Main Street through an office and housing development on the former site of the long-closed Lehigh Structural Steel.

The project's ADA accessible design connects Allentown residents, commuters, recreational trail users and tourists from established commercial and mixed-use developments to the new cultural, recreational and smart growth redevelopment projects occurring along Allentown's waterfront.

We offer our support for a project we believe will not only provide greater access to all residents, but continue the rebirth of the Lehigh Valley's urban core.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Molchany
Director of General Services

*Government Center
17 South Seventh Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18101-2401
Phone: 610-782-3001
Fax: 610-871-2755
rickmolchany@lehighcounty.org*