

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.  
PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE

HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 27, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write today in support of the application from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) program for its Keystone Corridor project. I urge you to give this application full and fair consideration.

The Keystone Corridor runs between the two biggest cities in Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, along two different Amtrak routes, the *Pennsylvanian* and the *Keystone Service*. Along the way, this corridor provides rail service to several important smaller and mid-sized cities in Pennsylvania, like Harrisburg, Lancaster, Johnstown, Altoona, and Greensburg. Through connecting trains at the respective terminuses, passengers can connect with major cities outside of the Commonwealth, including New York, Washington D.C., Boston, and Chicago.

I understand that the Commonwealth sees this corridor as an opportunity for economic growth in Pennsylvania. To that end, PennDOT has already begun working on plans to perform the infrastructure upgrades needed to add a second daily trip west of Harrisburg. Projects like this will both increase service and improve the quality of said service, helping more Pennsylvanians access affordable, non-vehicular transportation.

PennDOT officials have informed me that acceptance into the Corridor ID program will provide more official recognition of their efforts to enhance the core capacity of this route and support their efforts to access funding opportunities under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). I was proud to support the IIJA in Congress in part due to this focus on expanding passenger rail, and I am hopeful that Pennsylvania will be able to benefit from these new and expanded programs.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my views. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with applicable laws, rules and regulations, I also respectfully request that you keep me informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my staff at (202) 224-6324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Casey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator