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January 21, 2021

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Commerce, Science and Transportation
U.S. Senate
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Commerce, Science and Transportation
U.S. Senate
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Wicker and Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of PeopleForBikes, we would like to express our support for President Biden's nominee for the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Mayor Pete Buttigieg. We hope his nomination moves swiftly through your committee so that the USDOT has the leadership needed to serve, build and maintain the transportation systems that keep our nation moving. Given his experience and expertise, we are confident that Mayor Buttigieg will uplift safety, address inequities and commit to resiliency in tackling our greatest infrastructure challenges.

The PeopleForBikes Coalition is the national trade association representing companies that manufacture and distribute bicycles, bicycle parts and bicycle accessories. Nationwide, PeopleForBikes represents nearly 300 bicycle businesses and more than 7,000 retailers. The PeopleForBikes Foundation is supported by 1.4 million individuals. The U.S. bicycle industry contributes \$88 billion annually to our economy and employs more than 780,000 Americans.

Demand for safe, connected active transportation infrastructure continues to increase as more Americans choose bicycles to move freely and stay active. PeopleForBikes supports community-level organizing to accelerate bicycle network connectivity, so we appreciate the perspective of a mayor at the helm of the USDOT. His commitments to climate resiliency and equitable planning will strengthen transportation networks and make them more reliable.

As head of the USDOT, he will have to contend with the many crises caused and worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. From transporting vaccines to supporting state DOTs and transit systems and addressing annual increases in fatalities of pedestrians and people on bicycles, the challenges ahead are critical. We will support this administration as we have others, with research, data and a willing partnership to make bicycling safer and more accessible for all.

We encourage your committee and Mayor Buttigieg, if confirmed as secretary, to consider establishing an Active Transportation Administration within the USDOT. Current trends demand dedication to addressing the needs of Americans moving by bike, foot and shared micromobility, and committed leadership would enhance the agency's goals for safety and equitable mobility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenn Dice".

Jenn Dice, President + CEO,
PeopleForBikes