

# Ozarks Clean Air ALLIANCE

9 February 2024

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:


The Ozarks Clean Air Alliance, a 15-county member organization formed in 2008 and charged with improving air quality and managing local participation in the Ozone and PM Advance programs, is pleased to support the Highway MM: *Corridor of Opportunity* project. This project works to ease congestion in a rapidly growing area. It provides bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, as well as creates an opportunity for EV charging in an area with little access. These are all initiatives that work towards cleaner air in southwest Missouri.

Since OCAA's formation in 2008, significant improvements have been made in the region's air quality. The natural beauty of the Ozarks further highlights why it is imperative to maintain these improvements. The trails, rivers, and lakes in the region promote community health, quality of life, and serve as an important economic engine in attracting visitors and new businesses.

OCAA supports projects that decrease idling, provide alternative modes of transportation, and reduce tail pipe emissions that lead to the formation of Ozone and produce greenhouse gases. The Highway MM: *Corridor of Opportunity* project accomplishes this while supporting a growing and economically vital portion of the region.

We appreciate your consideration of the Highway MM: *Corridor of Opportunity* project and look forward to the continued efforts to preserve air quality in the Ozarks.

Sincerely,



Barbara J. Lucks  
Chair