



# Oglala Sioux Tribe

## Department of Public Safety

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### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief of Police  
Algin Young

Law Enforcement Services  
Criminal Investigations  
Communications Services  
Administrative Services

July 2, 2021

Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Oglala Sioux Tribe RAISE Planning Grant 2021

Secretary Buttigieg,

The Oglala Sioux Tribe (OST) Department of Public Safety supports the Tribe's application for 2021 RAISE Grant funding for the BIA 2, Rural Safety and Regional Access Project. The project is reconstructing 20.7 miles of arterial roadway between Kyle and Wanblee.

There have been many crashes along this section of BIA Route 2, and more concentrated than other arterials on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Since 2010, there have been a total of 22 crashes with a high severity rate of 6 fatal and 6 injury type crashes. Also, 50% of the crashes have occurred on curves which proves how dangerous the existing roadway geometry is. Furthermore, most of the intersections along BIA Route 2 have poor sight distance.

When traveling to the northeastern region of the Reservation and the community of Wanblee, the police avoid this route. It is difficult to safely travel at a higher rate of speed on this route due to the numerous curves. If the roadway is improved, there will no doubt be a reduction in crashes and police will use this route for emergency response.

Thank You,

Sincerely

Algin A. Young Sr.  
Chief of Police

Oglala Sioux Tribe Department of Public Safety