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OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

SHEKAR KRISHNAN

COUNCIL MEMBER, 25th DISTRICT, QUEENS

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February 20th, 2026

United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I am pleased to write in support of the New York City Department of Transportation's (NYC DOT's) grant application for the U.S Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Program.

This funding would support Phase 2 of NYC DOT's transformation of Queens Boulevard, between 74th Street and Elliot Avenue, through targeted capital investments that will improve mobility, access, and safety for all users along this critical corridor.

Queens Boulevard is a major east-west connector in Queens, traveling through neighborhoods including Woodside, Rego Park, and Elmhurst. It provides crucial access to shopping centers, parks, and transportation hubs for Queens residents across the borough. Due to its historic design and high traffic volumes, this segment of the boulevard continues to experience safety challenges for all users, regardless of how they travel. The completion of Phase 2 will address these conditions by delivering capital improvements for all roadway users.

This project will improve pedestrian conditions along the boulevard, resulting in better experiences when crossing the street, boarding buses, and moving along the roadway. It will also introduce street furniture, beautification, and plantings to build a better public realm for the over 30,000 people traveling along this corridor every day. These improvements will make commutes more reliable, support all modes of travel, and increase quality of life for the neighboring communities on either side of the boulevard.

Given the unfortunate history of severe traffic crashes and injuries on this corridor, this project is critical to the transformation of Queens Boulevard into a safe, vibrant corridor for all those who travel along it every day.

Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shekar K".

Shekar Krishnan
New York City Council, 25th District