



MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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April 16, 2021

The Honorable Willie Simmons
Central Commissioner
Mississippi Transportation Commission
2569 North West Street
Jackson, MS 39216

RE: Madison County RAISE Grant

Dear Commissioner Simmons:

On behalf of the Madison County Board of Supervisors, thank you for taking the time to visit with me and Mike Espy, our board attorney, on March 22, 2021 regarding the Reunion Crossing Parkway and interchange with I-55. As we discussed, the County is moving forward with the intent of applying for a RAISE Grant in the 2021 cycle and will proceed to include the entire interchange rather than just the roadway and bridge crossing.

Also, as we discussed, we recognize that there are factors associated with the traffic count on I-55 and the current limitation for access to I-55 with the connecting ramps; however, we plan to proceed on the basis that MDOT is cooperating and will work toward the common goal of making this interchange a reality while ensuring safety and efficiency to the motoring public on the mainline of I-55 between the Gluckstadt and Hwy 463 interchange. As we also discussed, MDOT's continuing support and input will be critical to the success of the forthcoming RAISE Grant application. In this regard, we are very pleased to learn that MDOT is performing an updated traffic count in an effort to analyze the feasibility of moving forward with the full interchange.

We have also had a productive conversation with U.S. Federal Highway Division Administrator Donald Davis to brief him and his team on the County's efforts. We were pleased that he offered his support and cooperation and suggested some broader funding opportunities for consideration that would facilitate development of the full interchange.

We appreciate your cooperation with this important project and your commitment to Madison County for improvements for our citizens, our economy and quality of life.

Sincerely,

Karl Banks, Board President
Madison County Board of Supervisors