

DON WEIR JR.
ATTORNEY MEDIATOR

March 5, 2021

Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Dept. of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: I-49 Extension through Allendale Neighborhood in Shreveport, Louisiana

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am a white, 70 year old male who has lived in Shreveport my entire life.

The so called “business leaders” in Shreveport, mostly white males, have decided that, for whatever reasons, they wish to sacrifice the Allendale neighborhood in order to extend I-49 in Shreveport.

Allendale is an all-Black neighborhood. Poor. Zero political clout. No voice. Notwithstanding those disadvantages, the residents of Allendale have, with help, completely rejuvenated their neighborhood over the past fifteen years. Some of the residents have lived in the neighborhood their entire lives. They do not want to be relocated and lose their “sense of community”. I don’t blame them.

I hope that, as you consider the pros and cons of the I-49 extension, you will take the opportunity to visit with the Allendale residents (recommendation – begin with Ms. Rosie) and consider the materially adverse impact on their psyches from the loss of their community.

With Kindest Regards,



Don Weir, Jr.

P.S. A map of the affected area is enclosed for your ease of reference.

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