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June 24, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 RAISE Discretionary Grant: US Highway 169/County Road (CR 4) Rural Safety and Mobility Interchange Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Princeton supports the Sherburne County request for a 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant to improve the safe and efficient operations of the US Highway 169/County Road (CR 4) Interchange.

The Interchange will replace the last remaining at-grade signalized intersection for a 75-mile section of US 169. The Interchange includes a tight ramp configuration west of US 169 and a loop in the southeast quadrant of the interchange. The proposed design minimizes wetland resource and right-of-way impacts to lands adjacent to US 169 and constructs a safe multimodal pedestrian and bicycle trail facility connection on the proposed CR 4 bridge crossing over US 169. The Project will consolidate and improve 18 local roadway access and 26 private access points on US 169 with a hybrid diamond interchange at CR 4.

While the proposed Interchange Project is outside the Princeton City limits, we find that the elimination of atgrade crossings aids in smooth traffic flow and ultimately reduces vehicle crashes thereby increasing safety for the traveling public.

Please give this 2021 RAISE Discretionary Grant proposal your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas Walker

Mayor

City of Princeton