



Sherburne County Sheriff's Office

"Commitment to Service with Integrity and Pride"

Sheriff Joel Brott

June 28, 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,

I am writing this letter to express our support for the Sherburne County request for a 2021 RAISE Discretionary grant to improve the safe and efficient operations of the US Highway 169/County Road (CR 4) Interchange.

The Project 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 resources 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.

Construction of the Interchange Project will greatly benefit our community and those that travel through it on their way to visit family, spend time up north, or simply commuting to and from their workplace. The northeast portion of our county is the fastest growing area in our jurisdiction; projections anticipate a 40% increase in traffic volume over the next 20 years. In the last five years alone, 92 crashes, including one fatality, have occurred at this intersection with damages estimated at \$15.9 million. Our deputies typically are the first to respond to these crashes, witnessing firsthand the lifechanging events that are put into motion. The Sherburne County Sheriff's Office supports this initiative knowing we could provide a safer route, not only for motorists, but for pedestrian and bicyclists, alike.

Please give this 2021 RAISE Discretionary Grant proposal your full consideration. If you have further questions, you may contact me at 763-765-3501 or via email at joel.brott@co.sherburne.mn.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel Brott', written over a horizontal line.

Sheriff Joel Brott

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