

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4105

<https://www.thune.senate.gov>

March 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:


It has come to my attention the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has submitted a request for funding from the United States Department of Transportation under the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program. As a strong advocate for investing in our nation's infrastructure, I write in support of their application.

Should they receive funding, the SDDOT would reconstruct Interstate-90 in McCook and Minnehaha counties in eastern South Dakota. This project adds resiliency and restores an aging Interstate segment critical to the area, with bridge enhancements, clearance upgrades, and drainage improvements. Additionally, it expands much-needed commercial truck parking at both the eastbound and westbound Salem rest areas.

By creating a safer, modern and more efficient highway, this undertaking will increase freight connectivity and augment access to the region's economic hub. It is part of the National Highway System, National Highway Freight Network, and the SDDOT Preferential Truck Network.

As you know, making necessary investments into our nation's infrastructure system is important to job creation and sustained economic growth in communities throughout the country. Your thorough review of their application would be greatly appreciated, and I urge you to give it every consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards,

  
Senator John Thune

JT:br

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
INDIAN AFFAIRS  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

March 10, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

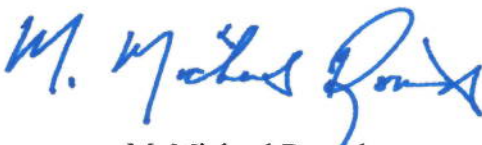
I understand that the South Dakota Department of Transportation will submit a grant application to the United States Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program. I request your full and fair consideration of the South Dakota Department of Transportation's project to reconstruct a portion of I-90 in McCook and Minnehaha Counties.

The proposed project would improve the connectivity of western and central South Dakota to the metropolitan area of Sioux Falls, including its specialty health care and commercial facilities. Specifically, the project would restore an aging interstate segment, improve drainage, provide bridge improvements, correct bridge clearances and expand truck parking at both the eastbound and westbound Salem rest areas.

The proposed project is located on the National Highway Freight Network, National Highway System, Strategic Highway Network and the State Preferential Truck Network. Therefore, it would help address the rural challenges of freight connectivity and support your Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES) Initiative.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the South Dakota Department of Transportation's grant application.

Sincerely,



M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator



DUSTY JOHNSON  
SOUTH DAKOTA

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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & LABOR

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

March 1, 2021

Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in regard to the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application submitted by the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT). The SDDOT intends to use this grant to reconstruct a portion of Interstate 90 in McCook and Minnehaha Counties. This large rural project will improve the connectivity of western and central South Dakota to the metropolitan area of Sioux Falls, particularly to Sioux Falls's specialty health care and commercial facilities.

The proposed improvements would restore an aging interstate segment, improve drainage, provide bridges improvements, correct bridge clearances, and improve freight connectivity. In addition, this project would expand truck parking at both the eastbound and westbound Salem rest areas. This segment is on the National Highway Freight Network, National Highway System, Strategic Highway Network, and the State Preferential Truck Network.

I strongly urge you to give full and careful consideration to the SDDOT's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dusty Johnson".

DUSTY JOHNSON  
Member of Congress





STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
KRISTI L. NOEM | GOVERNOR

March 18, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I strongly support the South Dakota Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application to reconstruct a portion of I-90 in McCook and Minnehaha Counties. It is a large rural project that improves the connectivity of western and central South Dakota to the metropolitan area of Sioux Falls, particularly its specialty health care and commercial facilities. It is in the rural, large project category, which makes it a significant expenditure for a state with a small population and a large service area.

The project adds resiliency and restores an aging Interstate segment, improves drainage, provides bridge improvements, corrects bridge clearances, and improves freight connectivity. It expands truck parking at both the eastbound and westbound Salem rest areas. The Interstate segment is on the National Highway Freight Network, National Highway System, Strategic Highway Network, and the State Preferential Truck Network.

This INFRA project supports economic vitality, reduces environmental impacts by improving connectivity, reduces barriers to opportunity, leverages Federal funding, and holds the state accountable for its performance. Improving rural-urban connectivity enhances access, which will decrease travel times and reduce emissions. Also, it validates the need for the ROUTES Initiative.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide in funding this grant. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact SDDOT Interim Secretary Jundt.

Sincerely,

Kristi Noem  
Governor



*Trucking's Voice In South Dakota Since 1935*

March 5, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The members of the South Dakota Trucking Association strongly support the South Dakota Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application to reconstruct a portion of I-90 in McCook and Minnehaha Counties. It is a large rural project that improves the connectivity of western and central South Dakota to the metropolitan area of Sioux Falls, particularly its specialty health care and commercial facilities. It is in the rural, large project category which makes it a significant expenditure for a state with a small population and a large service area.

The project adds resiliency and restores an aging Interstate segment, improves drainage, provides bridge improvements, corrects bridge clearances, and improves freight connectivity. It expands truck parking at both the eastbound and westbound Salem rest areas. The Interstate segment is on the National Highway Freight Network, National Highway System, Strategic Highway Network, and the State Preferential Truck Network.

This INFRA project supports economic vitality, reduces climate change impacts by improving connectivity, reduces barriers to opportunity, leverages Federal funding, and holds the state accountable for its performance. Improving rural-urban connectivity enhances access which will reduce travel time and greenhouse gases. Also, it validates the need for the ROUTES Initiative.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide in funding this grant. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact SDDOT Interim Secretary Jundt.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Myron L. Rau", is written over the typed name.

Myron L. Rau  
President  
South Dakota Trucking Association

MLR:pkh