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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 12, 2024

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

RE: Minnesota Department of Transportation, Bridge Investment Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program. If awarded, funding would support MnDOT's Bridge Priority Preservation Program, which would help MnDOT establish a priority preservation list that would assist with maintaining and tracking bridges throughout Minnesota.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is the state agency responsible for overseeing public transportation and transportation infrastructure across Minnesota, including bridges. According to MnDOT, there are currently 26 bridges identified on the state's trunk highway system that are of elevated priority due to their type, cost, size, and overall importance. However, MnDOT currently does not have a way of tracking these bridges for maintenance and future asset management. As a result, MnDOT is actively seeking solutions to address this.

Funding from the Bridge Investment Program would help MnDOT develop a bridge priority preservation list. Specifically, the list would help monitor and track high priority bridges across the state to make sure they are in good or satisfactory condition. The list would help prevent any premature or unnecessary repairs, which would ensure that MnDOT is only making essential repairs and replacements. The program would also help MnDOT develop a robust planning and management system which would support MnDOT's infrastructure operations for years to come.

Again, I support the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program. If you have any questions, please contact Rommel Lee in my Minnesota office at (612) 727-5220 or by email at Rommel Lee@Klobuchar.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

Amy Klobuchar United States Senator