



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Walz

75 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. ♦ Suite 130 ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

August 10, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The BIP funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned replacement/rehabilitation of ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor in the city of Austin, MN. The Project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by restoring bridges to a state of good repair while doing so within the existing right-of-way and minimizing the need for relocations, improving transportation safety, reducing surface transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change, delivering equitable transportation options and access, and promoting competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

I-90 is the longest interstate highway in the US and traverses through 13 states, connecting several urban and rural communities. The project provides multimodal connectivity to the thriving industrial community, housing development of various densities, employment centers, medical facilities, and retail/commercial/tourist destinations. As one of the fastest growing regions in southeastern Minnesota, infrastructure improvements in Austin are critically needed so residents and visitors of all backgrounds, incomes, and abilities may access jobs, healthcare, and housing.

The existing bridges along the I-90 project corridor are at the end of their useful design life, which causes several operational and safety issues for the roadway users, freight haulers, and businesses along the corridor. These issues include structurally deficient and/or functionally obsolete bridges with poor deck condition and geometry, insufficient vertical clearances, and significant scour conditions at under water piers, among others. There are also significant crash and congestion issues due to narrow bridges, insufficient sight lines, and traffic queuing. The absence of ADA accessible multiuse paths across I-90 is a huge barrier to multimodal connectivity for the community. The project will address all the transportation challenges noted above and will result in a cohesive network of multimodal alternatives that support diverse community needs. Additionally, the project aligns with USDOT's strategic goals and statutory project requirements of the BIP opportunity.

The rehabilitation/replacement of ten bridges, associated roadway improvements, and construction of new multimodal connections along the project corridor will strengthen our system of transport and contribute to growth in our region and the state.

I support MnDOT's application for the funding of the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project and look forward to the infrastructure investment in our region through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please give this 2022 BIP funding application your full consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Walz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and a distinct "J." followed by "Walz".

Tim Walz
Governor of Minnesota

AMY KLOBUCHAR
MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 22, 2022

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

RE: Minnesota Department of Transportation, Bridge Investment Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

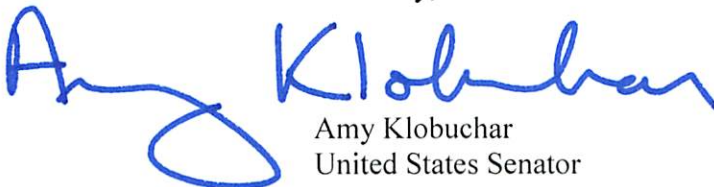
I write in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for funding through the Federal Highway Administration's Bridge Investment Program. If awarded, funding would support the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project, which would replace or rehabilitate ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor in the city of Austin, Minnesota.

Interstate 90 is the longest interstate highway in the United States and traverses through 13 states, connecting countless urban and rural communities across the country. Located in southern Minnesota, the city of Austin is a thriving industrial center that features a diverse residential community, a robust economy, state-of-the-art medical facilities, and retail, commercial, and tourist attractions. The city of Austin and its surrounding communities represent one of the fastest growing regions in southern Minnesota. In order to accommodate the significant growth in the region, improvements to infrastructure are necessary.

Funding from the Bridge Investment Program would be used to replace or rehabilitate ten bridges along the I-90 corridor in Austin. The existing bridges along the corridor are in dire need of maintenance and repair, and are at the end of their useful design life. As a result, these bridges have caused countless operational and safety issues for commuters, freight movement, and commercial vehicles. Completing this project would support the needs of rural Minnesotans by improving and modernizing the regional transportation network in southern Minnesota.

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

August 19, 2022

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 Bridge Investment Program: I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project in Austin, MN

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The BIP funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned replacement/rehabilitation of ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor in the city of Austin, MN. The Project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by restoring bridges to a state of good repair while doing so within the existing right-of-way and minimizing the need for relocations, improving transportation safety, reducing surface transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change, delivering equitable transportation options and access, and promoting competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

I-90 is the longest interstate highway in the US and traverses through 13 states, connecting several urban and rural communities. The project provides multimodal connectivity to the thriving industrial community, housing development of various densities, employment centers, medical facilities, and retail/commercial/tourist destinations. As one of the fastest growing regions in southeastern Minnesota, infrastructure improvements in Austin are critically needed so residents and visitors of all backgrounds, incomes, and abilities may access jobs, healthcare, and housing.

The existing bridges along the I-90 project corridor are at the end of their useful design life, which causes several operational and safety issues for the roadway users, freight haulers, and businesses along the corridor. These issues include structurally deficient and/or functionally obsolete bridges with poor deck condition and geometry, insufficient vertical clearances, and significant scour conditions at under water piers, among others. There are also significant crash and congestion issues due to narrow bridges, insufficient sight lines, and traffic queuing. The absence of ADA accessible multiuse paths across I-90 is a huge barrier to multimodal connectivity for the community. The project will address all the transportation challenges noted above and will result in a cohesive network of multimodal alternatives that support diverse community needs. Additionally, the project aligns with USDOT's strategic goals and statutory project requirements of the BIP opportunity.

The rehabilitation/replacement of ten bridges, associated roadway improvements, and construction of new multimodal connections along the project corridor will strengthen our system of transport and contribute to growth in our region, including the anticipated growth of Austin itself.

I support MnDOT's application for the funding of the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project and look forward to the infrastructure investment in our region through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please give this 2022 BIP funding application your full consideration and if I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached at (651) 296-4193 and rep.patricia.mueller@house.mn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia K Mueller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "P".

Patricia Mueller
State Representative
Minnesota House of Representatives



MOWER COUNTY

County Administrator

201 1st Street NE, Suite 9, Austin, Minnesota 55912

Phone: 507-437-9549 Fax: 507-437-9458

September 7, 2022

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 Bridge Investment Program: I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project in Austin, MN

Dear Secretary, Buttigieg:

I am writing on behalf of the Mower County Board to express support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP).

The BIP funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned replacement/rehabilitation of ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor. The Project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by restoring bridges to a state of good repair improving transportation safety, reducing surface transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change, and delivering equitable transportation options and access.

I-90 is the longest interstate highway in the US and traverses through 13 states, connecting several urban and rural communities. The project provides connectivity to the industrial community, housing development, employment centers, medical facilities, and retail and tourist destinations.

The existing bridges along the I-90 project corridor are at the end of their useful life, which causes several operational and safety issues for the roadway users, freight haulers, and businesses along the corridor. These issues include structurally deficient and/or functionally obsolete bridges with poor deck condition and geometry, insufficient vertical clearances, and other deficiencies.

This bridge project will strengthen our system of transport and contribute to growth in our region, including the anticipated growth of Mower County itself. The Mower County Board is in full support MnDOT's application for the funding of the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project. Please give this 2022 BIP funding application your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Trish Harren
County Administrator

City of Austin
500 Fourth Avenue NE
Austin, Minnesota 55912-3773



Phone: 507-437-9940

www.ci.austin.mn.us

August, 15 2022

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 Bridge Investment Program: I-90 Austin Bridges
Improvement & Mobility Project in Austin, MN

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The BIP funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned replacement/rehabilitation of ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor in the city of Austin, MN. The Project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by restoring bridges to a state of good repair while doing so within the existing right-of-way and minimizing the need for relocations, improving transportation safety, reducing surface transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change, delivering equitable transportation options and access, and promoting competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

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City of Austin
500 Fourth Avenue NE
Austin, Minnesota 55912-3773



Phone: 507-437-9940
www.ci.austin.mn.us

and congestion issues due to narrow bridges, insufficient sight lines, and traffic queuing. The absence of ADA accessible multiuse paths across I-90 is a huge barrier to multimodal connectivity for the community. The project will address all the transportation challenges noted above and will result in a cohesive network of multimodal alternatives that support diverse community needs. Additionally, the project aligns with USDOT's strategic goals and statutory project requirements of the BIP opportunity.

These projects are of high impact for the City of Austin and our business owners, general public and traveling visitors. These bridges are in high traffic areas and therefore of high visibility and ensure a connected roadway system that is in sore need of upgrade. The rehabilitation/replacement of ten bridges, associated roadway improvements, and construction of new multimodal connections along the project corridor will strengthen our system of transport and contribute to growth in our region, including the anticipated growth of City of Austin itself.

I support MnDOT's application for the funding of the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project and look forward to the infrastructure investment in our region through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please give this 2022 BIP funding application your full consideration and if I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached at (507) 437-9453.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S.M. King".

Stephen M. King
Mayor
City of Austin, MN

August 31, 2022

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 Bridge Investment Program: I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project in Austin, MN

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The BIP funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned replacement/rehabilitation of ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor in the city of Austin, MN. The Project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by restoring bridges to a state of good repair while doing so within the existing right-of-way and minimizing the need for relocations, improving transportation safety, reducing surface transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change, delivering equitable transportation options and access, and promoting competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

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The Hormel Institute, University of Minnesota is a cancer and biomedical research facility located in Austin, MN. We regularly collaborate with Mayo Clinic in Rochester and many other leading research centers worldwide. The Hormel Institute is currently developing a Minnesota BioImaging Center which will expand on our current expertise in cryoelectron microscopy and structural biology. The

Minnesota BioImaging Center will bring researchers from throughout Minnesota and the Midwest to Austin. The rehabilitation/replacement of ten bridges, associated roadway improvements, and construction of new multimodal connections along the project corridor will strengthen our system of transport and contribute to growth in our region, including the anticipated growth of The Hormel Institute itself.

I support MnDOT's application for the funding of the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project and look forward to the infrastructure investment in our region through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please give this 2022 BIP funding application your full consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert Clarke, PhD, DSc
Executive Director
The Hormel Institute
IJ Holton Chair in Cancer Research
Professor of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics
University of Minnesota



Jeffrey A Grev
Vice President of
Legislative Affairs

Hormel Foods Corporation
1 Hormel Place
Austin MN 55912-3680
Phone 507 437 5411
Fax 507 437 5135
jagrev@hormel.com

August 17, 2022
Pete Buttigieg
United States Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 Bridge Investment Program: I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project in Austin, MN

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The BIP funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned replacement/rehabilitation of ten bridges along the Interstate 90 (I-90) corridor in the city of Austin, MN. The Project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by restoring bridges to a state of good repair while doing so within the existing right-of-way and minimizing the need for relocations, improving transportation safety, reducing surface transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change, delivering equitable transportation options and access, and promoting competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

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Hormel Foods is responsible for the employment of over 4,000 individuals in the Austin, Minnesota area where our World Headquarters is located. The bridges and connectors in question are gateways to our corporate headquarters, largest US production facility and the thoroughfares of our 30,000-population community. Updating and replacing these bridges is a must to support our operational capabilities for safe and effective transport of goods, as well as movement of our employees. Additionally, the updates will support pedestrian and

bicycle traffic throughout our community. The rehabilitation/replacement of ten bridges, associated roadway improvements, and construction of new multimodal connections along the project corridor will strengthen our overall system of transport and contribute to growth in our region, including the anticipated growth of Hormel Foods itself.

I support MnDOT's application for the funding of the I-90 Austin Bridges Improvement & Mobility Project and look forward to the infrastructure investment in our region through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please give this 2022 BIP funding application your full consideration and if I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached at 507-437-5411 or jagrev@hormel.com

Sincerely,
Jeff Grev
Vice President of Legislative Affairs
Hormel Foods Corporation