

February 16, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

## RECONSTRUCTION OF INTERSTATE 94 BRIDGES OVER SUNSET DRIVE PROJECT IN MANDAN, ND

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) is pleased to submit this 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 of the Interstate 94 (I-94) Bridges over Sunset Drive in Mandan, ND.

The existing vertical clearance beneath the I-94 bridges is insufficient, resulting in limited freight movement beneath the structure, and numerous instances of freight traffic becoming impinged beneath the bridges. Additionally, the sight distance constraints at the ramp intersections, coupled with regional traffic growth, causes operational challenges leading to long queues during the peak hours. As a result, the existing interchange configuration will not meet future traffic demand without unacceptable delays, ramp queuing, and limitations to overall freight mobility at the I-94/Sunset Drive interchange.

I-94 is a significant interregional corridor connecting many North Dakota communities. The project aligns with USDOT's strategic goals and statutory project requirements of the BIP opportunity. The improvements to I-94 interchange bridges will strengthen the transportation system and contribute to growth in the region, including the anticipated growth of Mandan.

In the event of an award, NDDOT is committing the dollar amount from the specified sources for this project as noted in the application. We look forward to working with the USDOT to deliver a safer and more efficient transportation system.

Sincerely,

Rohald J. Henke, PE

Director

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