



Engineering

March 11, 2024

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

RE: Letter of Commitment for FY 2024 Bridge Investment Program: Reconstruction of Interstate 94
Bridges over Sunset Drive Project in Mandan, ND

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the North Dakota Department of Transportation's (NDDOT) 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 project aligns with the goals and priorities of BIP funding opportunity by reducing the total person miles traveled over bridges that do not meet current geometric design standards and by improving the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of people and freight over bridges.

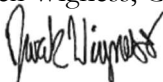
The existing vertical clearance beneath the I-94 bridge is insufficient, resulting in limited freight movement beneath the structure and numerous instances of freight traffic becoming impinged beneath the bridges. The operational challenges are further exacerbated due to the proximity of Old Red Trail intersection to the I-94 westbound ramps. 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.

The project addresses the transportation challenges in the region and will result in a cohesive network that supports diverse community needs and aligns with USDOT's strategic goals and statutory project requirements of the BIP opportunity. Locally, the improvements to I-94 Interchange Bridge will result in much needed safety and mobility improvements in the immediate area for both vehicles and pedestrians. These improvements will link the community of Mandan more effectively to itself and others in the region.

The City of Mandan supports the NDDOT's application for the funding of Reconstruction of I-94 Bridges over Sunset Drive Project. In the event of an award, the City of Mandan is committing the dollar amount from special assessments, sales tax and municipal infrastructure funds for the project, as noted in the grant application. Please give this FY 2024 BIP funding application your full consideration and if I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached by phone at 701-667-3225 or by email at jarek.wigness@cityofmandan.com.

Sincerely,

Jarek Wigness, City Engineer



City of Mandan