



**395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155**

June 23, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

This letter is in reference to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity application for the project located on US Highway 212 between County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 34 in Norwood Young America, to CSAH 36 in Cologne, located in Carver County. This is a locally led project by Carver County on the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Trunk Highway System. The goals of the project are to improve freight mobility and travelers' safety in the corridor. The project will expand a portion of US Highway 212 from a rural, two-lane undivided highway to a four-lane divided expressway, and construct reduced conflict intersections (RCIs) and a grade-separated interchange. This project will address the only remaining two-lane gap on US Highway 212 between Glencoe and the Twin Cities.

The total project cost is currently estimated at is \$59 million. Carver County has \$17 million in county funds and has been awarded \$3.5 million from the Metropolitan Council's Regional Solicitation for project safety improvements, which will be programmed in 2025 in Minnesota's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). It is MnDOT's assumption at this time that the local agency will be responsible for delivery costs and funding gaps. This project is planned for construction starting in 2024.

MnDOT is committed to partnering with Carver County as they develop this project and explore other funding opportunities for improving this transportation need.

Thank you for your interest and support to improve Minnesota's transportation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Margaret Anderson Kelliher'.

Margaret Anderson Kelliher
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Equal Opportunity Employer

Glenn Gruenhagen
State Representative

District 18B
McLeod and Sibley Counties



Minnesota
House of
Representatives

March 4, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is one of the most important economic and freight highway corridors in the State of Minnesota and the Upper Midwest region, connecting the Twin Cities to South Dakota and beyond. US Highway 212 is identified by the Minnesota DOT (MnDOT) in the Minnesota State Freight Investment Plan as a Critical Rural Freight Corridor. The corridor provides a critical connection for agricultural and industrial traffic to and from the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, which is emphasized by the Metropolitan Council's prioritization of the highway as a "Tier One Truck Corridor".

The US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project addresses serious safety, access, and mobility issues and meets and exceeds the priority objectives of the DOT's grant programs. Most significantly, the project will benefit the highway freight network by addressing deficiencies on a Critical Rural Freight Corridor, implementing significant highway safety measures, improving the state of good repair for National Highway System infrastructure not fully reconstructed since 1929, and strengthening local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality by realizing the vision of a reliable and connected freight transportation system.

I endorse and support Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Glenn H. Gruenhagen

Glenn Gruenhagen
State Representative 18B



CITY OF CHASKA

ONE CITY HALL PLAZA / CHASKA MN 55318-1962

March 1, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,


The City of Chaska is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is one of the most important economic and freight highway corridors in the State of Minnesota and the Upper Midwest region, connecting the Twin Cities to South Dakota and beyond. US Highway 212 is identified by the Minnesota DOT (MnDOT) in the Minnesota State Freight Investment Plan as a Critical Rural Freight Corridor. The corridor provides a critical connection for agricultural and industrial traffic to and from the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, which is emphasized by the Metropolitan Council's prioritization of the highway as a "Tier One Truck Corridor".

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The City of Chaska endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Windschitl". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Signature

Mark Windschitl

Mayor

City of Bird Island
660 Birch Avenue, PO Box 130
Bird Island, MN 55310
Phone (320) 365-3371 Fax (320) 365-4611
birdislandcity@mchsi.com

March 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Bird Island is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The City of Bird Island endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



Mayor Julie Sander



SMALL CITY & BIG FUTURE

City of Glencoe ♦ 1107 11th Street East, Suite 107 ♦ Glencoe, Minnesota 55336
Phone: (320) 864-5586

March 1, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Glencoe is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project addresses serious safety, access, and mobility issues and meets and exceeds the priority objectives of the DOT's grant programs. Most significantly, the project will benefit the highway freight network by addressing deficiencies on a Critical Rural Freight Corridor, implementing significant highway safety measures, improving the state of good repair for National Highway System infrastructure not fully reconstructed since 1929, and strengthening local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality by realizing the vision of a reliable and connected freight transportation system.

The City of Glencoe endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Ryan Voss, Mayor

Mayor: Ryan Voss **City Administrator:** Mark Larson

Council Members: Allen Robeck – Paul Lemke – Cory Neid – John Schrupp – Sue Olson



City of Granite Falls

641 Prentice Street

Granite Falls, MN 56241-1598

Phone (320) 564-3011 FAX (320) 564-3013

7-1-1 or 1-800-627-3529 Voice, TTY, ASCII

www.granitefalls.com

March 8, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

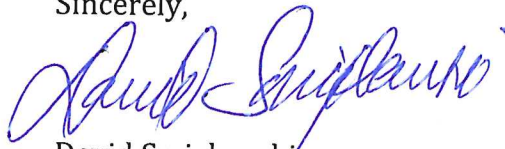
The City of Granite Falls, Minnesota is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The City of Granite Falls endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



David Smiglewski
Mayor, City of Granite Falls



TOWNSHIP OF DAHLGREN

Carver County Minnesota

March 8, 2021

CHAIRMAN

Jeff Thompson
Cologne, MN

SUPERVISOR

Paul Modeen
Cologne, MN

SUPERVISOR

Brian Gennrich
Cologne, MN

TREASURER

Doran Brahee
Cologne, MN

CLERK

Mary Olson
6970 Inwood Road
Cologne, MN 55322

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

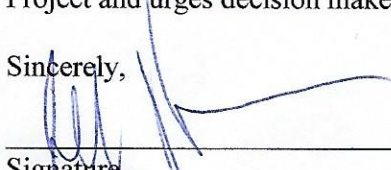
Dahlgren Township is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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Dahlgren Township endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



Signature
Jeff Thompson
Chairman



Glencoe Area

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM

March 5, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Sally Custer
President

CITY OF HAMBURG
City Clerk/Treasurer – PO Box 248
181 Broadway Ave., Hamburg, MN 55339

*City Office: (952) 467-3232 TDD: 711 Email: CityAdmin@CityofHamburgmn.com
City Website: CityofHamburgmn.com*

March 3, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Hamburg is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project addresses serious safety, access, and mobility issues and meets and exceeds the priority objectives of the DOT's grant programs. Most significantly, the project will benefit the highway freight network by addressing deficiencies on a Critical Rural Freight Corridor, implementing significant highway safety measures, improving the state of good repair for National Highway System infrastructure not fully reconstructed since 1929, and strengthening local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality by realizing the vision of a reliable and connected freight transportation system.

The City of Hamburg endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



Chris Lund
Mayor



"The City of Hamburg is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider."



HUTCHINSON

A CITY ON PURPOSE.

March 5, 2021

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

RE: US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Hutchinson (Minnesota) is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The City of Hutchinson's policymakers and staff wholeheartedly endorse and support Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please feel free to contact me at 320-234-4212 or kexner@ci.hutchinson.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Kent Exner
City of Hutchinson
Public Works Director/City Engineer



Lac qui Parle County ***Department of Highways***

**422 5th Avenue, Suite 301
Madison, MN 56256**

Email: sam.muntean@lqpc.com

Phone: 320-598-3878

Fax: 320-598-3020

Samuel A. Muntean PE
Highway Engineer

March 3, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Lac qui Parle County is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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Lac qui Parle endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. Muntean, P.E.
County Highway Engineer



Renville
COUNTY
Service · Stewardship · Shared Responsibility

Bob Fox, Chair
Renville County Board of Commissioners
Renville County Government Services Center
Suite 315
105 South 5th Street
Olivia, MN 56277-1484

Phone: 320-523-3710

March 9, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Renville County is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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Renville County endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Bob Fox
Board Chair

City of Victoria

1670 Stieger Lake Lane
P.O. Box 36
Victoria, MN 55386
952.443.4210

March 5, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Victoria is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The City of Victoria endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



Debra McMillan
Mayor



Equal Opportunity Employer

Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners

180 8th Avenue, Granite Falls, MN 56241

Courthouse Telephone: 320-564-5841

Courthouse Fax: 320-564-3670

Website: www.co.ym.mn.gov

Commissioners:

Greg Renneke – District 1

John Berends – District 2

Gary Johnson – District 3

Ron Antony – District 4

Glen Kack – District 5

March 9th, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Yellow Medicine County, Minnesota, is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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Yellow Medicine County endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Signature

Gary Johnson, Yellow Medicine County Board Chair

March 3, 2021



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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Bongards' Creameries, a Farmer owned Cooperative established in 1908, is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

For over 112 years, Bongards' Creameries has represented a significant business and community presence in the unincorporated town of Bongards, MN – just south of Highway 212 on County Road 51. To this day, this location is the primary place of work for many of our employees, the destination or departure point for substantial volumes of manufactured products and inbound raw materials, and a favorite stop for many of our frequent retail customers and visiting guests.

Highway 212 represents the primary artery for nearly 100% of this traffic, including:

- 50,000 trips to and from work per year, made by our over 225 employees at that location
- 20,000 annual shipments to or from the plant, carrying raw materials or finished goods
- 60,000 retail guests per year, representing approximately 40,000 trips

As demonstrated by the magnitude of these numbers, Highway 212 is vital to Bongards. Making the necessary improvements to the highway is critical to our organization – ensuring the safety of our customers, suppliers, and employees, while also ensuring continuous, efficient operation of our business.

Bongards' Creameries endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daryl Larson", with a long, sweeping underline.

Daryl Larson
President and CEO
Bongards Creameries



Come Home to HomeTown

HOME TOWN BANK

HomeTown Bank

641 Marketplace Drive
Waconia, MN 55387

PH 952-230-3850

FAX 952-230-3851

March 4th, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

HomeTown Bank is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is one of the most important economic and freight highway corridors in the State of Minnesota and the Upper Midwest region, connecting the Twin Cities to South Dakota and beyond. US Highway 212 is identified by the Minnesota DOT (MnDOT) in the Minnesota State Freight Investment Plan as a Critical Rural Freight Corridor. The corridor provides a critical connection for agricultural and industrial traffic to and from the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, which is emphasized by the Metropolitan Council's prioritization of the highway as a "Tier One Truck Corridor".

The US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project addresses serious safety, access, and mobility issues and meets and exceeds the priority objectives of the DOT's grant programs. Most significantly, the project will benefit the highway freight network by addressing deficiencies on a Critical Rural Freight Corridor, implementing significant highway safety measures, improving the state of good repair for National Highway System infrastructure not fully reconstructed since 1929, and strengthening local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality by realizing the vision of a reliable and connected freight transportation system.





HomeTown Bank endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Todd Hann
VP/Waconia Branch Manager



My HomeTown Bank

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CLEVELAND
HENDERSON
JORDAN
LE SUEUR

OLIVIA
REDWOOD FALLS
SHAKOPEE
SHAKOPEE HIGH SCHOOL

ST. PETER
WACONIA



TWIN CITIES & WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

March 1, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Twin Cities & Western Railroad (TC&W) is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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The US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project addresses serious safety, access, and mobility issues and meets and exceeds the priority objectives of the DOT's grant programs. Most significantly, the project will benefit the highway freight network by addressing deficiencies on a Critical Rural Freight Corridor, implementing significant highway safety measures, improving the state of good repair for National Highway System infrastructure not fully reconstructed since 1929, and strengthening local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality by realizing the vision of a reliable and connected freight transportation system.

Twin Cities & Western Railroad endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Signature

Mark Wegner
President & CEO

Wm. Mueller & Sons, Inc.

March 1, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

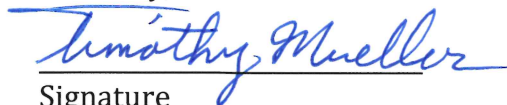
Wm. Mueller & Sons is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

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Wm. Mueller & Sons endorses and supports Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



Signature

Timothy Mueller

Secretary/Treasurer



McLeod County Board of Commissioners

830 11th Street East, Suite 110, Glencoe, Minnesota 55336 – (320) 864-5551 – Fax (320) 864-1809

COMMISSIONER NATHAN SCHMALZ

1st District
Phone (320) 282-9647
19906 Cable Avenue
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Nathan.Schmalz@co.mcleod.mn.us

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COMMISSIONER JOE NAGEL

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Hutchinson, MN 55350
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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Sheila Murphy
Phone (320) 864-1320
830 11th Street East, Suite 110
Glencoe, MN 55336
Sheila.Murphy@co.mcleod.mn.us

March 16, 2021

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

RE: US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

McLeod County (Minnesota) is pleased to support the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project for consideration of federal financial assistance under US Department of Transportation (DOT) Discretionary Grant Programs. This critical project expands five miles of US Highway 212 in neighboring Carver County, Minnesota from a two-lane undivided rural highway to a four-lane divided expressway facility extending from the City of Norwood Young America (County Highway 34) to the City of Cologne (County Highway 36). Carver County and MnDOT completed extensive corridor planning and are partnering on project development efforts to bring forward this innovative, cost-effective approach to expand US Highway 212.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is one of the most important economic and freight highway corridors in the State of Minnesota and the Upper Midwest region, connecting the Twin Cities to South Dakota and beyond. US Highway 212 is identified by the Minnesota DOT (MnDOT) in the Minnesota State Freight Investment Plan as a Critical Rural Freight Corridor. The corridor provides a critical connection for agricultural and industrial traffic to and from the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, which is emphasized by the Metropolitan Council’s prioritization of the highway as a “Tier One Truck Corridor”.

The US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project addresses serious safety, access, and mobility issues and meets and exceeds the priority objectives of the DOT’s grant programs. Most significantly, the project will benefit the highway freight network by addressing deficiencies on a Critical Rural Freight Corridor, implementing significant highway safety measures, improving the state of good repair for National Highway System infrastructure not fully reconstructed since 1929, and strengthening local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality by realizing the vision of a reliable and connected freight transportation system.

The McLeod County Board of Commissioners endorse and support Carver County's application to US DOT Discretionary Grant Programs for the US Highway 212 Rural Freight Mobility and Safety Project and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please feel free to contact our County Engineer/Public Works Director John Brunkhorst at 320-484-4321 or john.brunkhorst@co.mcleod.mn.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Krueger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "K".

Doug Krueger
McLeod County Board Chair