



**395 John Ireland Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155**

May 6, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is pleased to support the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant common application for the project located on US Highway 212 between CSAH 34 in Norwood Young America and CSAH 36 in Cologne, located in Carver County. This is a locally led project on MnDOT's Trunk Highway System. The goals of the project are to improve freight mobility and traveler 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, construct reduced conflict intersections 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.

Currently, the total project cost estimate is \$59.5 million. Carver County has \$4.5 million in county funds and has been awarded \$3.5 million from the Metropolitan Council's Regional Solicitation for project safety improvements, \$28.9 million from the Minnesota State Legislature and \$7.5 million through the Minnesota Highway Freight Program. MnDOT currently has this project included in the MnDOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for 2024. MnDOT has identified \$2.6 million for construction administration. It is MnDOT's assumption that the local agency will be responsible for any funding gaps beyond the MnDOT commitment. This project is planned for construction starting in 2024.

MnDOT is committed to a continuing partnership with Carver County as we develop this project and explore other funding opportunities and this effort moves forward to improve 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 'Nancy Daubenberger'.

Nancy Daubenberger, P.E.
Interim Commissioner

cc: Angie Stenson, Sr. Transportation Planner, Carver County Public Works
Michael Barnes, District Engineer, Minnesota Department of Transportation

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