

June 18, 2021

Mr. Lyndon Robjent County Engineer Carver County 11360 Highway 212, Suite 1 Cologne, MN 55322

Re: 2021 Minnesota Highway Freight Program Award

Dear Mr. Robjent,

I am writing you to let you know that MnDOT will award funding for the US212 Benton Township Phase project Benton Township Phase (from Cologne to Norwood Young America) through the Minnesota Highway Freight Program (MHFP). The project will receive a maximum of \$7,500,000 in fiscal year 2025 for roadway construction. The project must be let by March of 2025, unless otherwise approved by the Metro District State Aid Engineer.

Funding for this additional project is available because construction bids came in under the estimated construction cost for the US212 Project previously awarded MHFP funding during the first round of the solicitation. Under the program management rules for the MHFP program, the next highest scoring project shall be awarded funding if deliverable within the program funding window. This project is the next highest scoring project selected in the second round of the MHFP solicitation, and per advisement of Mr. Ryan Wilson, South Area Manager for MnDOT Metro District, this project is ready to move forward and is ready to begin construction in SFY 2025, which aligns with the program funds.

The MHFP is funded through the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) (CFDA 20.205). This is a federal contribution towards the project and MnDOT's cost participation policy applies to the project.

As a federal program, all federal requirements must be followed. The project must also be developed under the direction of a licensed engineer in the State of Minnesota. All program awardees will need to work with MnDOT to ensure a successful project delivery. This offer of assistance is contingent upon the completion of a cooperative agreement for the project. The applicant agrees to work with MnDOT District staff to create and regularly update a schedule of project development activities in MnDOT's Project Management System, including plan approvals and cooperative construction agreements.

This project will be handled through a cooperative agreement process with the MnDOT Metro District. If you have any questions regarding this MHFP award, please contact Andrew Andrusko at 651-366-3644 or <a href="mailto:andrew.andrusko@state.mn.us">andrew.andrusko@state.mn.us</a>. Any other questions throughout the project development process should be directed to Dan Erickson at 651-234-7763 or <a href="mailto:dan.erickson@state.mn.us">dan.erickson@state.mn.us</a>.

Finally, let me extend my congratulations to you and your staff for developing an important project that will improve freight movement in the area.

Sincerely,

Margaret Anderson Kelliher

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Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation

cc: Mike Barnes, Metro District Engineer, MnDOT

Dan Erickson, Metro District State Aid Engineer, MnDOT

Molly McCartney, Metro District Program Director, MnDOT

Cynthia Krumsieg, Metro District STIP Coordinator, MnDOT

Ryan Wilson, South Area Manager, MnDOT

Chris Kufner, Director, Office of State Aid, MnDOT

William Gardner, Director, Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations, MnDOT

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