



395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

August 16, 2023

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

Re: Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Common Application for Highway 210 – Equity, Safety and Multimodal Connectivity Project, Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is pleased to submit the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant common application for the Highway 210 - Equity, Safety and Multimodal Connectivity Project in Brainerd, Minnesota. Highway 210 through Brainerd is an important corridor for statewide users, the commuting public, freight and those accessing regional destinations. This project will construct a four-mile segment of Highway 210; construct a network of Americans with Disabilities Act accessible, multiuse sidewalks, ramps, crosswalks and trails; rehabilitate the bridge over the Mississippi River; construct two new roundabouts; and upgrade aging utility and stormwater infrastructure.

The project provides multimodal connectivity to the community and increases safety and travel time reliability so residents and visitors of all backgrounds, incomes and abilities may access jobs, recreation and housing. It will improve traffic flow, provide safer streets, and repair aging infrastructure. The project will address the transportation challenges in the region and will result in a cohesive network of multimodal access and alternatives that support diverse community needs. In addition, the general look and feel of the corridor will be improved to preserve the Brainerd Lakes Area as a popular vacation destination for Minnesotans.

MnDOT will contribute \$15 million in state funds toward a successful FY 2023-2024 MPDG Rural application for this important project. 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.
Commissioner

cc: Mike Ginnaty, P.E., District Engineer, Minnesota Department of Transportation