

395 John Ireland Boulevard Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

August 15, 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 the US 169/County Road 4 Interchange Project, in Sherburne County, Minnesota

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

This letter is in reference to the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant common application for the US 169/County Road 4 Interchange project in Sherburne County, Minnesota. This project is a locally led project on the Minnesota Department of Transportation's trunk highway system. The project will replace the last remaining at-grade signalized intersection for a 75-mile section of US 169, improve intersection safety and eliminate the last bottleneck along these 75-miles. The interchange includes a tight ramp configuration west of US 169 and a loop in the southeast quadrant of the interchange. The proposed design minimizes wetland resources and right-of-way impacts to lands adjacent to US 169 and constructs a safe, multimodal pedestrian and bicycle trail facility connection on the proposed County Road 4 Bridge crossing over US 169.

Currently, the total project cost estimate is \$47.2 million. Sherburne County has identified \$22.2 million for this project. MnDOT currently does not have this project included in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or funding identified in MnDOT's 10-year Capital Highway Investment Plan (CHIP). 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 in 2025.

MnDOT looks forward to continued cooperation with Sherburne County as this effort moves forward to improve this transportation need. Thank you for your interest and support to improve Minnesota's transportation system.

Sincerely,

Nancy Daubenberger, P.E.

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Commissioner

cc: Andrew Witter, Public Works Director/County Engineer, Sherburne County
Mike Ginnaty, P.E., District Engineer, Minnesota Department of Transportation