

March 24, 2022

Pete Buttigieg  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 RAISE Discretionary Grant: US Highway 169/County Road (CR 4) Rural Safety and Mobility Interchange Project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the Sherburne County request for a 2022 DOT RAISE Discretionary Grant to improve the safe and efficient operations of the US Highway 169/County Road (CR 4) Interchange.

The Project will replace the last remaining at-grade signalized intersection for a 75-mile section of US 169. 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 CR 4 bridge crossing over US 169. The Project will consolidate and improve local roadway access and private access points on US 169 with a hybrid diamond interchange at CR 4.

I am excited that the project has been allocated \$2.0M in State Bond funds for the design of the interchange. I am even more excited to see the design work is well underway.

Construction of the US Highway 169/County Road (CR 4) Interchange Project must become a priority with the planned traffic flow improvements to US Highway 169, through the City of Elk River, to our south. An already proven dangerous intersection for the residents of Sherburne County will become even more so without this necessary traffic safety improvement. I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2022 RAISE Discretionary Grant proposal your full consideration and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I can be reached at [blavigne@thebankofelkriver.com](mailto:blavigne@thebankofelkriver.com)

Sincerely,



Bill LaVigne  
Chief Operating Officer  
The Bank of Elk River