AMY KLOBUCHAR

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 8, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg United States Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Minnesota Department of Transportation, Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Program. If awarded, funding would support the West Central Minnesota I-94 Blowing and Drifting Snow Control Project, which would not only improve public safety along the corridor, but it would also reduce the need for maintenance and road closures on Interstate 94 (I-94).

Interstate 94 is a key interregional corridor for both the state of Minnesota and much of the country, connecting countless communities from the Great Lakes to the Western United States. Every year, the highway serves an essential role in supporting commuters, freight movement, and recreational travel. However, during the winter months, travel on I-94 in Minnesota becomes increasingly challenging to traverse due to the high amounts of snow fall. As a result, MnDOT is actively seeking solutions to address this issue.

Funding from the United States Department of Transportation would support the construction of a new snow fence on the I-94 corridor. The new corridor-wide snow fence would be installed along the highway between the cities of Moorhead and Alexandria in west central Minnesota. The West Central Minnesota I-94 Blowing and Drifting Snow Control Project would improve Minnesota's transportation system by making the highway more resilient to natural hazards, including severe weather. It would also improve highway safety, reduce road closures, and minimize the need for road maintenance, construction, and snow removal.

Again, I support the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Program. If you have any questions, please contact Rommel Lee in my Minnesota office at (612) 727-5220 or by email at Rommel Lee@Klobuchar.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

Amy Klobuchar

United States Senator