



**395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155**

April 1, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is pleased to support the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity grant application for the project located on US Highway 212 between County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 34 in Norwood Young America and CSAH 36 in Cologne, located in Carver County. This project is a locally led project on MnDOT's Trunk Highway System. The goals of the project are to improve freight mobility and traveler safety in the corridor. The project will expand a portion of US Highway 212 from a rural, two-lane undivided highway to a four-lane divided expressway, construct reduced conflict intersections (RCIs) and a grade-separated interchange. This project will address the only remaining two-lane gap on US Highway 212 between Glencoe and the Twin Cities.

Currently the total project cost estimate is \$59 million. Carver County has \$4.5 million in county funds and has been awarded \$3.5 million from the Metropolitan Council's Regional Solicitation for project safety improvements, \$28.9 million from the Minnesota State Legislature and \$7.5 million through the Minnesota Highway Freight Program. MnDOT currently has this project included in the MnDOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for 2024. MnDOT has identified \$2.5 million for construction administration. It is MnDOT's assumption that the local agency will be responsible for any funding gaps beyond the MnDOT commitment. This project is planned for construction starting in 2024.

MnDOT is committed to continue partnering with Carver County as we develop this project and explore other funding opportunities and looks forward to continued cooperation as this effort moves forward to improve this transportation need.

Thank you for your interest and support to improve Minnesota's transportation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nancy Daubenberger'.

Nancy Daubenberger, P.E.
Interim Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation

CC Angie Stenson, Sr. Transportation Planner, Carver County Public Works
Michael Barnes, MnDOT District Engineer

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