

AMY KLOBUCHAR  
MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY  
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AND TRANSPORTATION  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 16, 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: Chisago County, Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

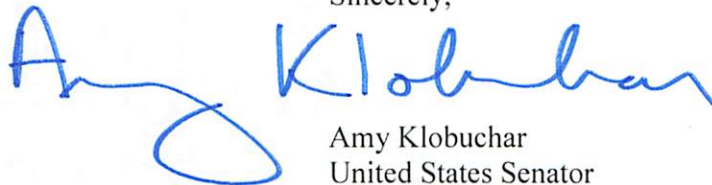
I write in support of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program. If awarded, funding would support the U.S. Highway 8 Reconstruction Project, which would address critical access, capacity, and safety concerns on U.S. Highway 8 in eastern Minnesota.

U.S. Highway 8 in Minnesota is a key interregional corridor that plays an essential role in supporting commuters, freight movement, and recreational travel. It is a part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local economy and a robust regional tourism industry; connecting rural communities in eastern Minnesota to the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan area, Wisconsin, and beyond. However, U.S. Highway 8 is currently an outdated two lane highway that serves over 22,000 vehicles a day, causing over 1,100 vehicular accidents in the last 14 years. Not only does this create safety and congestion concerns, but it also negatively impacts economic development and growth along the corridor.

Funding from the RAISE program would be used to convert an 8-mile segment of U.S. Highway 8 between the cities of Forest Lake and Chisago City from an undivided two lane highway to a four lane divided highway with safety medians separating directional traffic. The project would also include upgrades to access points along the highway and new cyclist and pedestrian trails, which would significantly reduce safety concerns and boost multimodal transportation in the region. If approved, the U.S. Highway 8 Reconstruction Project would support the needs of rural Minnesotans by cutting commute times, boosting businesses and tourism in the region, and improving public safety.

Again, I support Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity 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](mailto:Rommel_Lee@Klobuchar.Senate.Gov).

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 30, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Chisago County's 2023 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write in support of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project expanding eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I encourage your strong consideration of this proposal. If you any questions, please contact Myles Artis by email at [myles\\_artis@smith.senate.gov](mailto:myles_artis@smith.senate.gov).

Sincerely,



Tina Smith  
US Senator



TOM EMMER  
6TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES  
INVESTOR PROTECTION,  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND  
CAPITAL MARKETS

NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND MONETARY POLICY

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2306**

315 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2331

DISTRICT OFFICE  
9201 QUADAY AVENUE NE  
SUITE 206  
OTSEGO, MN 55330  
(763) 241-6848

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STEERING

REPUBLICAN WHIP TEAM

DEPUTY WHIP TEAM

February 16, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

I write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access, and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness, and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

I respectfully request that you give the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project your full consideration. Thank you so much for your time and attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of assistance as you make your determination.

Sincerely,



Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2308**

Feb. 1, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access, and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness, vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,



**SENATOR MARK KORAN**  
District 32



# Senate

**State of Minnesota**

January 9, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

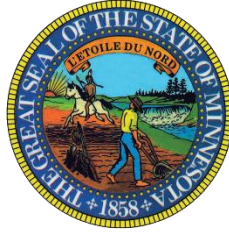
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Koran".

Senator Mark Koran



Brian Johnson  
State Representative  
District 32A



Minnesota  
House of  
Representatives

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness, and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Johnson

District 32A

**Anne Neu Brindley**  
State Representative  
Chisago County



# Minnesota House of Representatives

February 6, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Representative Anne Neu Brindley  
Minnesota 28B

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "ANB", written over a horizontal line.





February 14th, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Hill", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Representative Josiah Hill



Chase Burnham  
County Administrator

# COUNTY OF CHISAGO

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chisago County Government Center  
313 North Main Street, Room 172  
Center City, MN 55012-9663

### Commissioners:

District 1  
Jim Swenson  
District 2  
Rick Greene  
District 3  
Marlys Dunne  
District 4  
Ben Montzka  
District 5  
Dan Dahlberg

January 18, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Chair, Ben Montzka  
Chisago County Board of Commissioners



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Fran Miron, District 1  
Stan Karwoski, District 2  
Gary Kriesel, District 3, Chair  
Karla Bigham, District 4  
Michelle Clasen, District 5

February 7, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Kriesel".

Gary Kriesel, Chair  
Washington County Board of Commissioners

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Government Center | 14949 62nd Street North | P. O. Box 6 | Stillwater, MN 55082-0006  
P: 651-430-6001 | F: 651-430-6017 | TTY: 651-430-6246  
[www.co.washington.mn.us](http://www.co.washington.mn.us)

*Washington County is an equal opportunity organization and employer*





*Established In 1855*

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Bob Gustafson  
Mayor, City of Chisago City



January 18, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

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This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lisa Iverson  
Council Member Dennis Schilling  
Council Member Bret Ohnstad  
Council Member Linda Nanko Yeager  
Council Member Claire Luger

January 19, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

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This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Patrick Casey  
Administrator  
City of Forest Lake, Minnesota



**Mayor**

Kevin Stenson

**Deputy City Clerk**

Melissa Glenna



**CITY OF LINDSTRÖM**  
"America's Little Sweden"

**Council Members**

Laurie Burington

Linda Merkel

Brian Norelius

Judy Chartrand

---

13292 Sylvan Ave • Lindström, Minnesota 55045  
(651) 257-0620 • Fax: (651) 257-0623

January 4, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Kevin Stenson,  
Lindstrom Mayor

TOWNSHIP OF CHISAGO Lake  
PO Box 649  
Lindstrom, MN 55045

January 30, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, **agricultural traffic**, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,  
*Sherry Stirling*, chair  
Chisago Lake Town Board  
Phone: 651-257-0827

HIGHWAY 8 TASK FORCE  
14040 OLD HOLT COURT  
LINDSTROM, MN 55045  
651-338-5202

January 27, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

During this time of awareness of the pressing need to invest in our country's infrastructure for the safety, economic development and security of our people, our local safety improvement group, The Highway 8 Task Force, writes to you to draw your attention to Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City and Forest Lake, Minnesota, and is at this time is the number one priority of the Highway 8 Task Force.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues, it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Bike Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Bike Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin and as tourists come to enjoy our many lakes and the St. Croix River Valley.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your strong consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,



Nora Holt  
President of the Highway 8 Task Force





Alcohol  
and Gambling  
Enforcement

Bureau of  
Criminal  
Apprehension

Driver  
and Vehicle  
Services

Emergency  
Communication  
Networks

Homeland  
Security and  
Emergency  
Management

Minnesota  
State Patrol

Office of  
Communications

Office of  
Justice Programs

Office of  
Pipeline Safety

Office of  
Traffic Safety

State Fire  
Marshal



## Minnesota State Patrol

1110 Centre Pointe Curve, Ste. 410 • Mendota Heights, Minnesota 55120

Phone: 651.350.2000 • TTY: 651.282.6555

[msp.dps.mn.gov](http://msp.dps.mn.gov)

January 5, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8. These were all identified in the Highway 8 Corridor Study. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the U.S. Department of Transportation's funding programs, and key issues identified in National Roadway Safety Strategy, by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional

information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Olsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jonathan" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Olsen".

Captain Jonathan Olsen  
MN State Patrol  
Commercial Vehicle Section Commander

January 6, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access, and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,



Katie Malchow  
Executive Director, Chisago Lakes Chamber of Commerce  
Executive Director, Chisago Lakes Tourism Bureau





CHISAGO COUNTY  
— HRA-EDA —  
*A Natural Resource for Business*

Phone: (651) 674-5664  
38871 7th Avenue | P.O. Box 815  
North Branch, Minnesota 55056  
[www.chisagocounty.org](http://www.chisagocounty.org)

January 31, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Chisago County Economic Development Authority, we request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.


RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

  
Daniel Hoffman  
Chair



January 4, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,  
*Nannette M LaNasa*  
Nannette M LaNasa  
President & CEO  
Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

*Serving the communities of Columbus, Forest Lake, Lent, Linwood, Scandia, Stacy, and Wyoming*  
Physical Location: 838 Lake Street S • Forest Lake, MN 55025-0474  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 474 • Forest Lake, MN 55025-0474  
651-464-3200 • [www.forestlakechamber.org](http://www.forestlakechamber.org)



January 9, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

The Wyoming Fire Department covers roughly 3 miles of US Highway 8 and provides mutual aid to departments to the North and South along US Highway 8. Wyoming Fire responds to several vehicle accidents every year on US Highway 8, these can range from minor fender benders up to fatalities. From a safety standpoint, US Highway 8 has a reputation of being a dangerous highway. Changes have been made over the years to make it safer, however more work needs to be done. This grant would help to address these safety issues and aid in lowering the amount of personal injury and fatal accidents that local public safety agencies respond to on US Highway 8.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.



**PUBLIC SAFETY**

P.O. Box 188, 7665 Wyoming Trl., Wyoming, MN 55092  
Phone: 651-462-0577 Fax: 651-462-0506

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

Jesse Milligan  
Fire Chief  
City of Wyoming



**PUBLIC SAFETY**

P.O. Box 188, 7665 Wyoming Trl., Wyoming, MN 55092  
Phone: 651-462-0577 Fax: 651-462-0506





January 23, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.



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**PUBLIC SAFETY**

P.O. Box 188, 7665 Wyoming Trl., Wyoming, MN 55092  
Phone: 651-462-0577 Fax: 651-462-0506

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. D. Bauer".

Neil D. Bauer, Ed.D.  
Public Safety Director/Police Chief



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**PUBLIC SAFETY**

P.O. Box 188, 7665 Wyoming Trl., Wyoming, MN 55092  
Phone: 651-462-0577 Fax: 651-462-0506



# Lakes Area Police Department

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January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

I'm writing to request your support of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. The funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor has historically been labeled as the "Highway of Death" following a poll at the Minnesota State Fair on the deadliest roads in Minnesota. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. This project will improve corridor safety for both motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway, and that number grows every year. The corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Part of this project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails, moving non-motorized traffic off this congested roadway.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

For all of the reasons above, I would ask for your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Director of Chisago County Public Works directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

William Schlumbohm  
Chief of Police

13292 Sylvan Avenue • Lindstrom, MN 55045  
Phone: (651) 257-0622 • Fax: (651) 257-8531



# CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## BRANDON THYEN, SHERIFF

15230 Per Road  
Center City, MN 55012-9663  
Non-Emergency 651-257-4100  
Fax: 651-213-6330

**Administration**  
651-213-6300

**Investigation**  
651-213-6319

**Patrol**  
651-257-4100

**Civil Process**  
651-213-6307

**Records**  
651-213-6305

**Jail**  
651-257-2931

January 26, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

I write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access, and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.



This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

In my 25-year law enforcement career in Chisago County, I have been responding to vehicle crashes along this stretch of US Highway 8. Each year, more vehicles are travelling this corridor and it's becoming more dangerous to travel. The reconstruction of this corridor is vital to all travelers and community members in our area. The Chisago County Sheriff's Office endorses and supports Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandon Thyen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheriff Brandon Thyen  
Chisago County Sheriff's Office

January 5, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Nurmi", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brandon Nurmi  
Director, Arrowhead Transit

January 13, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

We write to request your strong consideration of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. This critical project expands eight miles of US Highway 8 between Interstate 35 and Karmel Avenue in the cities of Wyoming, Chisago City, and Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any sort of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails.

In addition to local vehicle traffic, the highway is used for a variety of economically significant activities. These include commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

For the reasons above, I urge your full consideration of the Chisago County's application for the US Highway 8 Reconstruction Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joe Triplett, Chisago County Public Works Director | County Engineer directly at 651-213-8708.

Sincerely,



Joseph Lee  
President & CEO  
Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation