

AMY KLOBUCHAR  
MINNESOTA

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

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 21, 2022

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 (RAISE) Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

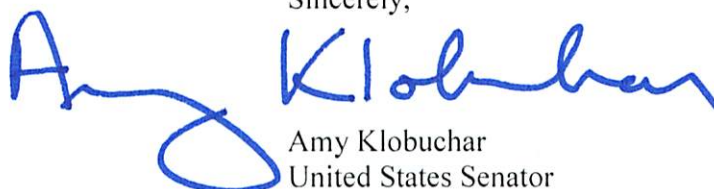
I write in support of Chisago County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program. If awarded, the funding would support the U.S. Highway 8 Reconstruction Project, which would address 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 However, U.S. Highway 8 is currently an outdated two lane highway that serves over 22,000 vehicles a day, causing 1,100 vehicular accidents in the last 13 years.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. 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 20510-2310

April 1, 2022

Honorable Peter Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

To 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. 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, and it serves commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic. There is also significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, as travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin.

RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway, creating safety and congestion issues that severely restrict economic development along the corridor. This project will also construct approximately 6.5 miles of the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail that will connect into the Hardwood Creek and Sunrise Prairie Regional Trails, serving bicycle and pedestrian users.

For the reasons above, I encourage your strong consideration of this proposal. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jake Schwitzer on my staff at 651-221-1016.

Sincerely,



Tina Smith  
United States Senator

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2308

March 31, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We 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. 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,



Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress  
Minnesota's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District



Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress  
Minnesota's 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District



SENATOR MARK KORAN  
District 32



**Senate**

**State of Minnesota**

March 29th, 2022

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 large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Koran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

State Senator Mark Koran

**Bob Dettmer**  
State Representative



# Minnesota House of Representatives

District 39A

March 29, 2022

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 cursive script that reads "Bob Dettmer".

State Representative Bob Dettmer  
House District 39A



March 31, 2022

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 "Anne Neu Brindley".

Anne Neu Brindley  
Deputy Republican Leader  
House District 32B

261 State Office Building, 100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55155-1298

(651) 296-5377

Rep.Ann.Neu@house.mn

Brian Johnson  
State Representative  
District 32A



Minnesota  
House of  
Representatives

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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.





# COUNTY OF CHISAGO

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

Commissioners:  
District 1  
Chris DuBose  
District 2  
Rick Greene  
District 3  
Marlys Dunne  
District 4  
Ben Montzka  
District 5  
VACANT

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

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, Richard Greene

Comm. Marlys Dunne

Comm. Chris DuBose

Comm. Ben Montzka



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



Board of Commissioners

Fran Miron, District 1

Stan Karwoski, District 2

Gary Kriesel, District 3

Wayne A. Johnson, Chair, District 4

Lisa Weik, District 5

March 1, 2022

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Washington County Board of Commissioners, I am writing 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. 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. Approximately one mile of US Highway 8 is located in Washington County.

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 "Wayne A. Johnson", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Wayne A. Johnson, Chair  
Washington County Board of Commissioners



March 2, 2022

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, we 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



March 4, 2022

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.

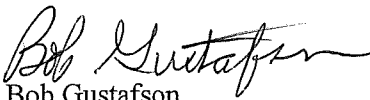
RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts 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



Administration Department



February 16, 2022

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.

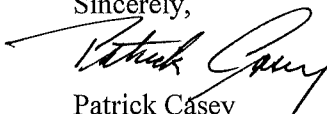
RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts 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,



Patrick Casey  
City Administrator  
City of Forest Lake

MAYOR  
Kevin Stenson  
  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
John J. Olinger



COUNCIL MEMBERS  
Laurie Burington  
Bill Schlumbohm Sr.  
Scott Hildebrand  
Linda Merkel

February 16, 2022

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.

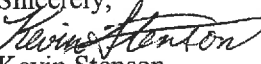
The corridor is part of the National Highway System and is vital to the local and regional economy. It connects the region to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Wisconsin and beyond. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional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



## TOWNSHIP OF CHISAGO LAKE

PO Box 649  
Lindstrom, MN 55045

February 24, 2022

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

Dear Mr. Buttigieg,

I am writing 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, and adjacent areas of Chisago Lake township, 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. This section of 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, the local scenic St Croix area and further into 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*  
Sherry Stirling, chair  
Chisago Lake town board  
Phone: 651-257-0827

March 21, 2022

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.

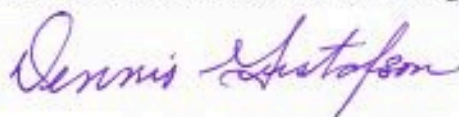
RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts 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, Dennis Gustafson, CO-Chair of the Highway 8 Task force committee.







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)

February 22, 2022

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 Kamel 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.

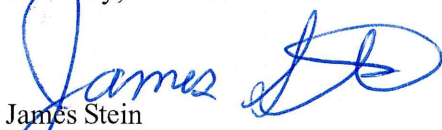
RAISE Grant funds will address critical capacity, access, and safety issues along the eight-mile segment of US Highway 8 that the Highway 8 Corridor Study identified. Currently, over 22,000 vehicles a day utilize the two-lane highway. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts 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 considerable 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, we 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,

  
James Stein  
Chair



Your ride.

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

February 17, 2022

Dear Mr. Secretary,

We are writing 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. 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, including our public transit vehicles. This not only causes safety and congestion issues; it severely restricts economic development along the corridor. Additionally, the corridor lacks any bicycle or pedestrian facilities impeding options for microtransit integration or low-emission commuting possibilities for local residents. 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 local public transit routes connecting regional low income, elderly, disabled, and general public passengers to employment opportunities and support services across the Chisago County area as well as access to critical transit transfer areas providing access to other regional services in Cambridge, Mora, Pine City, 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 "Jack Larson", is written over a horizontal line.

Jack Larson  
Director, Arrowhead Transit

Phone: 218.741.0724 / toll-free: 800.862.0175 / fax: 218.741.5715 / [www.arrowheadtransit.com](http://www.arrowheadtransit.com)  
702 3rd Avenue South / Virginia, MN 55792

Operated by: Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency  
Equal Opportunity Employer and Affirmative Action Agency





30525 Linden Street • PO Box 283

(p) 651-257-1177 (f) 651-257-1770

March 16, 2022

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. Highway 8 is a major thoroughfare connecting the Twin Cities metropolitan area with Western Wisconsin. The project will enhance system performance, improve corridor safety for motorists and pedestrians, and support local/regional economic and community development. Highway 8 also serves as the main route to Minnesota's most highly visited state park, Interstate State Park. Tourism and recreational opportunities are abundant in our area. However, without the proposed improvements, accessing this beautiful and popular tourist area is unsafe.

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.

Necessary for commercial freight, agricultural traffic, and commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, use of Highway 8 is vital for our local economy. With significant traffic on weekends, and throughout the vacation season, travelers move between Minneapolis-St. Paul and Northwest Wisconsin. Dangerous access points for many homes and businesses are along Highway 8 making an already complicated traffic condition, extremely dangerous for those who live, work and travel along the highway.

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 blue ink, appearing to read "Katie Malchow", is written over a horizontal line.

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



March 8, 2022

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, commuter traffic to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area and access to our local businesses. 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 LaNasa

Executive Director

Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce





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)

February 21, 2022

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 "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  
Commercial Vehicle Section Commander



# 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

February 23, 2022

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 24-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 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 "Brandon Thyen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheriff Brandon Thyen  
Chisago County Sheriff's Office



# Lakes Region



February 21, 2022

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 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. As the community ambulance provider, we have seen first-hand needless traumatic injuries that could have been reduced or eliminated with a safer design as proposed in this project.

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,

Respectfully submitted,

Aarron Reinert, NRP, MA  
Executive Director, Chief of EMS  
Lakes Region EMS



# Lakes Area Police Department

---

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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,

William Schlumbohm  
Chief of Police

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



March 3, 2022

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.



**PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

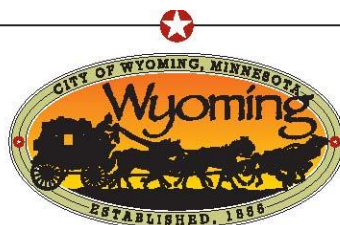
This project will greatly benefit the highway network and meet the priority objectives of the DOT's funding programs by emphasizing highway safety, local and regional economic competitiveness and vitality, and addressing rural challenges.

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.  
Director of Public Safety  
Police Chief







DATE, 2022

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 Dept 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.

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.



#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

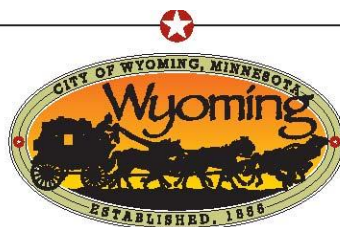
P.O. Box 188, 7665 Wyoming Trl., Wyoming, MN 55092  
Phone: 651-462-0577 Fax: 651-462-0506

For the reasons above, I urge your Chisago County's application for Reconstruction Project. If you need additional information, Triplett, Chisago County Public Engineer directly at 651-213-

full consideration of the the US Highway 8 have any questions or please contact Joe Works Director | County 8708.

Sincerely,

Jesse Milligan  
Fire Chief  
Wyoming Fire Department





# Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation

February 21, 2022

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