

City of Watford City

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September 13, 2022

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2022 Safe Streets and Roads for All Discretionary Grant Application: McKenzie County Safety Projects, McKenzie County ND

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the McKenzie County's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Application.

The SS4A funding would facilitate the implementation of safety improvements along many miles of road throughout the county. The County's Roadway Safety Plan has designated these areas as a High Priority due to the high frequency of crashes and roadway safety risk factors that are present.

The SS4A funds will implement safety improvements identified as part of the County's Roadway Safety Action Plan. Safety improvements include a wide range of low-cost high-impact strategies along high priority segments, intersections and curves, including pavement markings, edgeline rumble strips, centerline rumble strips chevron signs, advance curve warning signs, speed advisory signs, upgrading signs/markings, installing street lights and reviewing sight triangles. These safety improvements are critically needed so residents and visitors of all backgrounds are provided with improved roadway safety.

The City of Watford City supports the extension of the current multi-use path, along Highway 85B south of Cherry Creek that would provide access to the new Softball and Fairgrounds Complex. The extended path would be a great asset to our community as it would not only provide a safe route to the complex, but also allow residents that live along Hwy 85B a safe route to and from town. This path would decrease the chance of a motor vehicle/pedestrian accident by providing a means to the complex without having to walk or bike on Hwy 85B. Many recreational walkers, consisting of families and health conscientious individuals, would take full advantage of this safe path.

I support McKenzie County's application for the SS4A funding for safety improvements and look forward to an improved transportation corridor serving our region. Please give this proposal your full consideration and if I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached at 701-570-4338.

Sincerely,

Philip K. Riely, Mayor

Watford City, North Dakota