

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 16, 2021

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

RE: Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

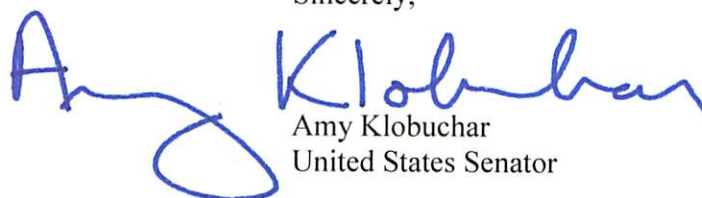
I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Program. If awarded, the funding would support the Interstate 494 (I-494) Corridor Project, which would improve the connectivity, safety, and travel efficiency for commuters and freight movement on I-494.

Interstate 494 is a key regional corridor that connects communities across the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan area. Every year, countless numbers of commuters, students, workers, and businesses in the region rely on I-494 for access to commerce, education, employment, and recreational opportunities. However, according to the State of Minnesota, the southwest portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport to U.S. Highway 169 is one of the most congested and dangerous roadways in Minnesota and is in dire need of maintenance and repair. This segment of I-494 reaches well over 30% capacity each day and features the I-35W and I-494 interchange, which carries nearly 500,000 vehicles daily.

Funding from the INFRA Program would be used to rehabilitate critical components of the southwest portion of I-494. Specifically, the funding would prioritize improvements on I-494 from I-35W to Minnesota Highway 100, as well as pedestrian bridges on Nicollet Avenue, Portland Avenue, and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Bloomington, Minnesota. This project would eliminate significant safety issues, expand capacity, enhance accessibility, and support regional freight and tourism industries that rely on this critical corridor.

Again, I support the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation Infrastructure for Rebuilding America 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

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2305

March 18, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing this letter to express our support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) request for the 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant for the I-494 corridor project.

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. This segment of the corridor also includes a significant regional bottleneck at I-35W and I-494 that impacts many residents of the Twin Cities who commute into Minneapolis and St. Paul, as well as impact to freight moving through the region.

Construction of the I-494 corridor project will greatly benefit my constituents, the community and I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please follow up with Akolade Gbadamosi ([Akolade.Gbadamosi@mail.house.gov](mailto:Akolade.Gbadamosi@mail.house.gov)) in my office.

Sincerely,



Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress

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

March 19, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: I-494 corridor project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing this letter to express my support for and urge US DOT's strongest consideration of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) request for the 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant for the I-494 corridor project.

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for commuters, freight, and anyone else traveling to regional destinations. Many thousands of my constituents travel this stretch of highway each and every day and experience both the safety concerns and at times extreme traffic congestion related to a major regional bottleneck at the intersection of Highways I-35W and I-494, which this project seeks to address. In addition to the safety concerns and time spent in traffic, this also has a major negative impact on our local businesses and those moving freight through the corridor.

According to Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Commissioner of MnDOT, "This project will have significant local and regional impact through improved access to reliable and safe multimodal transportation options. This project will improve bridges in the corridor, provide a smoother road surface, enhance pedestrian and transit accessibility, and improve stormwater drainage." In line with your welcome and laudable efforts to focus on equity in federal infrastructure investments, the I-494 project will also improve transit access for underrepresented and underserved communities and provide better connections to key destinations and employment opportunities.

For these reasons, I hope you will give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and strongest consideration. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact my Chief of Staff, Zach Rodvold, at [zach\\_rodvold@mail.house.gov](mailto:zach_rodvold@mail.house.gov) or by phone at (952) 207-9960.

Thank you for your service to our country, and for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

ANGIE CRAIG  
2ND DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

CRAIG.HOUSE.GOV

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
AND COMMERCE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2302

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES,  
ENERGY AND CREDIT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES  
AND RISK MANAGEMENT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK  
AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE  
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT,  
INVESTIGATIONS & REGULATIONS

March 24, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: I-494 corridor project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Congratulations again on your historic confirmation as our Secretary of Transportation! I look forward to working with you and the Department to Build Back Better and move our economy forward.

I am writing this letter in that spirit and to express my support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) request for the 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant for the I-494 corridor project. This corridor is directly adjacent to my district and many of my constituents depend on this segment of Interstate I-494 for multiple types of travel on a daily basis.

This project corridor is one of the most frequently traveled stretches of highway in Minnesota with outlets to other parts of the state, including a great deal of agriculture activity to the south in my district. I-494 also provides direct access to the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport.

This project holds great regional significance in my district, the state of Minnesota as a whole and to regional development and commerce. The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important stretch of highway for the commuting public, the mobility of freight and commodities in the region and to those accessing regional destinations.

The project area is also directly adjacent to extensive amounts of economic activity. Fortune 500 Companies Best Buy and Target Corporation both hold corporate offices directly off this corridor and the area is home to numerous other businesses. This segment of the corridor also includes a significant regional bottleneck at I-35W and I-494 that impacts these businesses as well as daily commuters and has been cited in newspapers as one of the worst bottlenecks in the nation.

Perhaps most importantly, the safety improvements that would result from this project would be crucial and beneficial to all who utilize this highway. Construction of the I-494 corridor project will greatly benefit my district and my state and I am writing to join my colleagues and express my support for it I-494 corridor project's funding through the INFRA grant program.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention. If I can answer anything further on this project or any other 2<sup>nd</sup> District transportation priority, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angie Craig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Walz

75 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. ♦ Suite 130 ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

March 17, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: I-494 corridor project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for a 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant for the I-494 corridor project. The proposed project will bring greater capacity to a key section of Interstate 494, and will improve the reliability of rush-hour traffic through this heavily-traveled corridor in the Twin Cities.

The segment of I-494 that runs from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the commuting public, freight, and those passing through the area en route to destinations outside the Twin Cities. This segment of the corridor has a significant regional bottleneck at I-35W and I-494 that impacts many commuters who work in Minneapolis and St. Paul. The bottleneck also slows down freight traffic moving through the region.

Construction of the I-494 corridor project will greatly benefit people who live in, work in, or visit the Twin Cities, and I am writing to ask your support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. J. Walz".

Tim Walz  
Governor



March 18, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant:  
Projects 1 & 2 of the Interstate 494 (I-494) Vision Implementation Plan

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter to express support for Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) application for funding through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program. If awarded, the funding would be used to complete the I-494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County. MnDOT and the Metropolitan Council, the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan planning organization (MPO), are co-applicants, and the application has received regional support from surrounding counties, cities, businesses, and organizations.

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport to U.S. Highway 169 is an important corridor for statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available. The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I-494/I-35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, as well as improve mobility, multimodal connections, and safety for all travelers.

This project will have significant local and regional impact through improved access to reliable and safe multimodal transportation options. This project will improve bridges in the corridor, provide a smoother road surface, enhance pedestrian and transit accessibility, and improve stormwater drainage. The I-494 vision has been driven by stakeholders to improve transportation equity and sustainability considerations, such as improving connections from racially concentrated areas of poverty to key destinations and transit access, incorporated managed lanes, and make connections to electric vehicle charging stations in the corridor.

I support MnDOT's 2021 INFRA application for the funding of to I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [margaret.anderson.kelliher@state.mn.us](mailto:margaret.anderson.kelliher@state.mn.us)

Sincerely,



Margaret Anderson Kelliher  
Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Transportation



## I-494 CORRIDOR COMMISSION

*Reducing Traffic Congestion*

Bloomington • Eden Prairie • Edina • Minnetonka • Richfield

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March 17, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: I494 Vision Implementation Plan

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter to express our support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant to the I494 Vision Implementation Plan.

The I494 Vision Implementation Plan is significant to the entire state of Minnesota as residents from 85 out of 87 counties use the project area on a daily basis to access the MSP International Airport and the Mall of America.

Additionally, the project area has more jobs than downtown Minneapolis and downtown St. Paul combined. Both I-494 and I-35W are major freight corridors and safety and congestion mitigation improvements have been needed in the project area for decades.

Construction of the I494 Vision Implementation Plan will greatly benefit residents, commuters and employers in the project area, and we are writing to express our support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer any questions further please let me know. I can be reached at (612) 590-3735 and at [rschack@minnetonkamn.gov](mailto:rschack@minnetonkamn.gov).

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schack  
Chair, I-494 Corridor Commission





## Metropolitan Airports Commission

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6040 - 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450 • 612-726-8100 • metroairports.org

March 17, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant – I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) sends this letter to express our support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant money for the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County.

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) to Highway 169 is an important corridor for statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available. The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 will construct half of the managed lanes, all access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and enhance safety.

Construction of the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 will greatly benefit the passengers travelling to and from the airport.

We hope you will consider this project proposal a priority for 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant funding. If you have any questions for MAC, please contact me at 612-725-8371 or via email at [bridget.rief@mspmac.org](mailto:bridget.rief@mspmac.org).

Sincerely,

Bridget M. Rief, P.E.  
Vice President – Planning and Development



HENNEPIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
A-2400 GOVERNMENT CENTER  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55487-0240

March 11, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: I-494: US 169 to MSP  
Airport

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for your leadership, and for prioritizing equity in transportation, which concurrently fights climate change and creates jobs.

I am writing this letter to express Hennepin County's support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)'s 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant application to fund the I-494: US 169 to the Minneapolis - St. Paul (MSP) International Airport in the cities of Bloomington, Edina, Eden Prairie, and Richfield in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

The I-494 corridor is important for statewide users, the commuting public, freight transportation, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with its partners, have developed a vision for the freeway and the associated local roadway crossings with an implementation plan that phases construction as funding is secured. The vision includes managed lanes on I-494, access reconfiguration of local interchanges for improved safety, and multi-modal connectivity and I-494/I-35W interchange modifications. These improvements will reduce congestion, improve safety and mobility, and enhance the resiliency of critical highway infrastructure for all users along and across the I-494 corridor.

Hennepin County has been a long-time advocate and partner in planning and preparing for I-494 improvements. Construction of the I-494 project will greatly benefit the residents, businesses and commerce within Hennepin County and throughout the state.

Thank you for your consideration of MnDOT's 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant application to provide critical funding needed for this regionally significant transportation infrastructure project.

Sincerely,

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

Marion Greene  
Chair, Board of Commissioners

Enc: Hennepin County Board Resolution 21-0082

CC: Federal delegation from Minnesota

**STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN**


**CLERK TO THE COUNTY BOARD**

I, Karen Keller, Deputy Clerk to the County Board of the above named County, do hereby certify that I have compared the papers writing, to which this certificate is attached, with the original

Resolution No. 21-0028 adopted by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners on March 9, 2021 as the same appears of record and on file in the said Clerk to the Board's office, at the Government Center in said Hennepin County, and find the same to be true and correct copy thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County at the City of Minneapolis, this 10th day of March A.D. 2021

Karen Keller  
Deputy Clerk to the County Board

by:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk to the County Board



# HENNEPIN COUNTY

## MINNESOTA

### Hennepin County, Board of Commissioners RESOLUTION 21-0082

2021

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The following resolution was moved by Commissioner Debbie Goettel and seconded by Commissioner Marion Greene:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has given notice that funding through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) discretionary grant program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 is available; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT INFRA Grant Program seeks transportation infrastructure projects that address climate change, environmental justice, and racial equity that will benefit underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT INFRA Grant Program specifically focus on projects in which the local partners will significantly benefit and can proceed to construction within 18 months after grant award; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is planning to apply for the FY 2021 USDOT INFRA Grant Program for the I-494 Corridors of Commerce project; and

WHEREAS, the county's support is desired as part of the application process to demonstrate that the project has broad public support.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair to submit a letter of support for MnDOT's application for the FY 2021 USDOT INFRA Grant Program funds for the I-494 Corridors of Commerce project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that submittal of a letter of support does not constitute a commitment of funding by the county.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and there were 7 YEAS and 0 NAYS, as follows:

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#### County of Hennepin Board of County Commissioners

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**YEAS:** Anderson, Conley, Fernando, Goettel, Greene, LaTondresse, Lunde

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON 3/9/2021**

**ATTEST:**   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy/Clerk to the County Board

Hennepin County Board of Commissioners  
300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487  
hennepin.us





March 9, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: I-494 corridor project

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners is fully supportive of MnDOT's request for the 2021 US DOT INFRA Discretionary grant program for the I-494 corridor project.

The southwest portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. This segment of the corridor also includes a significant regional bottleneck at I-35W and I-494 that impacts many Dakota County residents who commute into Minneapolis and St. Paul.

MnDOT has been working collaboratively with corridor stakeholders including cities, counties, corridor coalitions and the public to develop a vision for the freeway that improves safety, mobility and multimodal access. The INFRA grant is an important funding source to ensure the corridor vision is implemented.

Once completed, the I-494 corridor project will significantly improve safety and mobility for Dakota County residents and businesses that use both I-494 and I-35W. The County urges you to consider funding this critical project for our residents, businesses, and the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Liz Holberg".

Mary Liz Holberg  
Chair, Dakota County Board of Commissioners

cc: Michael Barnes, District Engineer, MnDOT Metro District  
Amber Blanchard, Major Projects Manager, MnDOT Metro District

**County Board of Commissioners**

☎ 651-438-4418    📠 651-438-4405    🌐 [www.dakotacounty.us](http://www.dakotacounty.us)  
📍 Dakota County Administration Center • 1590 Highway 55 • Hastings • MN 55033





**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SCOTT COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**Date:** March 16, 2021

**Resolution No.:** 2021-58

**Motion by Commissioner:** Barb Weckman Brekke

**Seconded by Commissioner:** Tom Wolf

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-46; SUPPORTING THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S SUBMITT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REBUILDING AMERICA (INFRA) GRANT FOR THE I-494 CORRIDORS OF COMMERCE**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation is soliciting projects as a part of the 2021 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) competitive funding program; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation has made it known that they will be requesting INFRA funding to fill the funding gap on the I494 Corridors of Commerce project (I-494 project) ; and

WHEREAS, the proposed I-494 project will improve the I494/ I-35W system interchange, add MnPass lanes between Highway 100 and I-35W and enhance supporting frontage roads to add capacity and improve safety in this corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Scott County Board of Commissioners has long supported the completion of the I-494 project as the top regional and state priority, passing resolutions in 2013 and 2018 articulating the importance of this project not only for Scott County, the Minneapolis/Saint Paul metropolitan area, and the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the I-494 project intersects two of the most heavily congested highways (Interstates 35W and 494) in the metropolitan area and state; and

WHEREAS; I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is a corridor of state-wide importance for the commuting public, freight, and those accessing destinations such as the Mall of America and the MSP International Airport; and

WHEREAS, reliable airport access an important need for air freight and travelers, especially those businesses with national and international interests; and

WHEREAS, I-494 is one the busiest corridors in the state carrying daily nearly 170,000 vehicles per day on the segment west of I-35W; and

WHEREAS, I-35 is a major north/south interstate corridor providing freight and access to virtually any interstate highway in the United States including access to ports and foreign markets; and

WHEREAS, over 20 percent of the metropolitan area jobs are located along this corridor, attracting workforce from all parts of the metro area and counties beyond; and

WHEREAS, the I-35W and I-494 system interchange is a statewide bottleneck with 290,000 vehicles entering daily the geometrically outdated and over-capacity interchange; and

WHEREAS, this corridor and interchange experiences major congestion of 4-5 hours each day, identified as is the worst freight and commuter bottle neck in the state and 18th worst in the nation; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT has determined that as proposed it will remove 2,000 hours of daily delay for corridor users and save \$2 million in annual crash costs; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT is utilizing significant state funds for this project and the INFRA funds complete the project; and

WHEREAS, Scott County Board feels this project should be the state's top priority to complete the entire project even though not in Scott County; and

WHEREAS, due to the statewide importance of this project, the County has decided to forgo applying for its next project priority on TH 169 to make it clear to the US DOT that the County believes this is the State of Minnesota's highest priority; and

WHEREAS; this project meets the INFRA project goals of benefit, leverage, innovation and equity; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Scott hereby, supports the I-494 project as the top Minnesota project for the United State Department of Transportation to consider for the 2021 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners request that the State of Minnesota build the full project for the I-35W interchange.

**VOTE RESULTS:**

**Yes:** Barb Weckman Brekke, Dave Beer, Michael Beard, Jon Ulrich, Tom Wolf

**No:** None

**Absent:**

**Abstain:** None

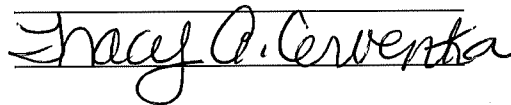
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**State of Minnesota)**

**County of Scott )**

I, Lezlie A. Vermillion, duly appointed qualified County Administrator for the County of Scott, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, Scott County, Minnesota, at their session held on 3-16th-2021 now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof. Witness my hand and official seal at Shakopee, Minnesota, on 3-16-2021.

County Administrator



Administrator's Designee



Office of County Commissioners  
Carver County Government Center  
Human Services Building  
602 East Fourth Street  
Chaska, MN 55318-1202  
Phone: 952 361-1510  
Fax: 952 361-1581

March 16, 2021

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

Re: Carver County Letter of Support for MnDOT's FY 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant Request for I-494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

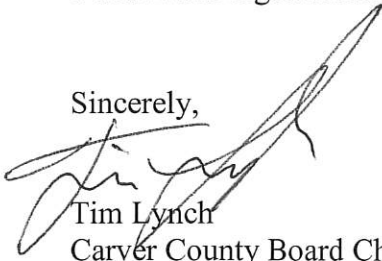
Carver County is pleased to support the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) request to the FY 2021 US Department of Transportation (DOT) INFRA Discretionary Grant Program for the I-494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County, MN.

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport (Airport) to US Highway 169 is an important corridor for statewide highway users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. This section of I-494 is a direct connection of US Highway 212 in Carver County to and from the Airport as well as the Mall of America and other important economic regions of the Twin Cities and is a vital part of the regional transportation system for Carver County.

MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available. Improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Carver County supports MnDOT's application for construction of the I-494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 and urges decision makers to prioritize the project for grant funding.

Sincerely,



Tim Lynch  
Carver County Board Chair



March 8, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
U.S. Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant – I494: US 169 to Airport  
Projects 1 and 2

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter to express the City of Bloomington's support for the MnDOT request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant to I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County.

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available. The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Bloomington has been a long-time advocate and partner in planning and preparing for improvements to I494. Construction of the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 will greatly benefit the residents, businesses and commerce within and through the City of Bloomington and I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention If I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at 952-457-7506 or [tbusse@bloomingtonmn.gov](mailto:tbusse@bloomingtonmn.gov).

Sincerely,

Tim Busse  
Mayor, City of Bloomington

CC: Senator Amy Klobuchar  
Senator Tina Smith  
Representative Dean Phillips



**City Manager's Office**

March 9, 2021

**MAYOR**

MARIA REGAN GONZALEZ

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

**CITY COUNCIL**

SEAN HAYFORD OLEARY

MARY SUPPLE

SIMON TRAUTMANN

BEN WHALEN

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: Projects 1 and 2 of the I494 Vision Implementation Plan

**CITY MANAGER**

KATIE RODRIGUEZ

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter to express our support for Minnesota Department of Transportation's request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant funds for the I494: US 169 to MSP Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County, Minnesota. A resolution of support from the Richfield City Council is attached to this letter.

Construction of Projects 1 and 2 of the I494: US 169 to MSP Airport vision will greatly benefit our community, the region, and Minnesota's economy. Moreover, a large part of Project 1 will directly benefit one of Minnesota's "ACP-50" areas (Area of Concentrated Poverty w/ greater than 50% people of color) by safely connecting them with jobs and other opportunities on either side of 494 through freeway ramp reconfiguration and improved pedestrian amenities. For this reason and many more, the City enthusiastically expresses its support for this effort.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at [krodriguez@richfieldmn.gov](mailto:krodriguez@richfieldmn.gov) or 612-861-9702.

Sincerely,

Katie Rodriguez  
City Manager  
City of Richfield, Minnesota

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
  )  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN )     ss  
  )  
CITY OF RICHFIELD     )


I, Elizabeth VanHoose, being the duly qualified city clerk of the City of Richfield, Hennepin County, Minnesota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of Resolution 11831.

And that the same is on file and on record in my office.

Given under my hand and seal

This 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021



  
Elizabeth VanHoose  
City Clerk  
City of Richfield  
Hennepin County, Minnesota



**RESOLUTION NO. 11831**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MNDOT'S  
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REBUILDING AMERICA (INFRA) GRANT  
APPLICATION FOR PROJECTS 1 AND 2 OF  
THE I494: US 169 TO MSP AIRPORT VISION**

**WHEREAS**, MnDOT and local agency partners have been working towards roadway improvements along the I-494 Corridor from US Highway 169 to the MSP Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, Projects 1 and 2 are moving forward and MnDOT plans to submit an application for INFRA grant funds; and

**WHEREAS**, INFRA grants are specifically targeted to projects that result in good-paying jobs, improve safety, apply transformative technology, and explicitly address climate change and racial equity; and

**WHEREAS**, INFRA grants prioritize racial equity as a selection criterion, to the extent that project sponsors have completed equity-focused community outreach, and projects are designed to benefit underserved communities; and

**WHEREAS**, project stakeholders have worked extensively to ensure that equity considerations are front and center to each aspect of the I494: US 169 to MSP Airport vision; and

**WHEREAS**, a large part of Project 1 will directly benefit one of Minnesota's "ACP-50" areas (Area of Concentrated Poverty w/ greater than 50% people of color as defined by the Metropolitan Council) by safely connecting them with jobs and other opportunities on either side of 494 through freeway ramp reconfiguration and improved pedestrian amenities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Richfield expresses its support for MnDOT's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application for Projects 1 and 2 of the I494: US 169 to MSP Airport vision.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Richfield, Minnesota this 9th day of March, 2021.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Regan Gonzalez, Mayor

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth VanHoose, City Clerk



March 17, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant - I-494: U.S. 169 to Airport Projects 1 & 2

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter to express our support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant to I-494: U.S. 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

I-494 is a heavily-used highway that joins with I-694 to create a loop around the Twin Cities Metro Area. The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport to U.S. Highway 169 is an important corridor for statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. It is also one of the most congested roads in Minnesota. The interchange of I-494 and I-35W alone carries 20,000 vehicles during the peak hours and has one of the worst crash frequencies and rush-hour congestion levels in the state.

MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available. The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I-494/I-35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 will construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I-494/I-35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Construction of the I-494: U.S. 169 to Airport Projects 1 & 2 will greatly benefit our community and we are writing to express our support. Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further, please let me know. I may be reached at [ascipioni@edinamn.gov](mailto:ascipioni@edinamn.gov) or 952-826-0440.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Scipioni".

Transportation Planner  
City of Edina, MN

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Neal".

Scott Neal, City Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James B. Hovland".

James B. Hovland, Mayor

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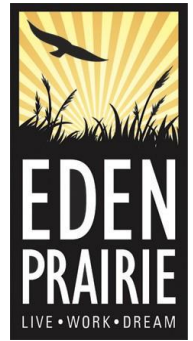
**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

7450 Metro Boulevard • Edina, Minnesota 55439  
EdinaMN.gov • 952-826-0371 • Fax 952-826-0392

March 12, 2021

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

**RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant:  
Projects 1 & 2 of the I-494 Vision Implementation Plan**



OFC 952 949 8300  
FAX 952 949 8390  
TDD 952 949 8399

8080 Mitchell Rd  
Eden Prairie, MN  
55344-4485

[edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org)

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We are writing this letter to express our support for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant to assist with funding of Projects 1 and 2 of the I-494 Vision Implementation Plan in Bloomington and Richfield, Minnesota and near the Minneapolis and St. Paul International Airport.

These improvements will provide congestion relief to one of the most congested interchanges in our state and will replace bridges that will accommodate the vision for future widening of this important urban interstate corridor.

Construction of the full I-494 Vision Implementation Plan will greatly benefit our community by providing more reliable travel times and access to the international airport, as well as other destinations east of our community. We are writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if we can answer anything further please let me know. We may be reached at (952) 949-8300.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Case, Mayor  
City of Eden Prairie

Lisa Toomey, Council Member  
I-494 Corridor Commission Member  
City of Eden Prairie



March 10, 2021

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

RE: Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant: Projects 1 and 2 of the I494 Vision Implementation Plan

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We are writing this letter to express our support for Minnesota Department of Transportation's request for 2021 DOT INFRA Discretionary grant funds for the I494: US 169 to MSP Airport Projects 1 and 2 in the Cities of Bloomington and Richfield in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

Construction of Projects 1 and 2 of the I494: US 169 to MSP Airport vision will greatly benefit our community, the region, and Minnesota's economy. Moreover, a large part of Project 1 will directly benefit one of Minnesota's "ACP-50" areas (Area of Concentrated Poverty w/greater than 50% people of color) by safely connecting them with jobs and other opportunities on either side of 494 through freeway ramp reconfiguration and improved pedestrian amenities. For this reason and many more, the Richfield Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors expresses its support for this effort.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention. It is important to all aspects of our community and state.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nic Romero", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Nic Romero  
Chair  
Richfield Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelsey Nagel", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kelsey Nagel  
President  
Richfield Chamber of Commerce

**Richfield Chamber of Commerce**  
**PO Box 23446 Richfield, MN 55423-0046**  
**612-869-5100**

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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*Twin Cities Campus*

*State and Local Policy Program*

*Hubert H. Humphrey School of  
Public Affairs*

*295 Humphrey Center  
301 – 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota*

*Office: 612-626-0347  
Fax: 612-626-9833*

March 17, 2021

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available. The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

As a researcher on transportation policy and economic competitiveness at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, I am leading a research project focused on the medical device and related technology industry clusters and their supply chain issues in Minnesota. This research has demonstrated the importance of international air transport to these industries and reliable and efficient transportation links for their industry supply chains. Since many of the companies involved in this industry are located in the I-494 corridor, this project will allow more reliable trips for these companies through managed lanes that allow trucks of up to 26,000 pounds. The cost savings through increased reliability in the I-494 corridor from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 will improve productivity and economic competitiveness as well as strengthen medical technology supply chains.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at [lmunnich@umn.edu](mailto:lmunnich@umn.edu) or (612) 202-9511.

Sincerely,



Lee W. Munnich, Jr.  
Senior Researcher, Transportation Policy and Economic Development  
Humphrey School of Public Affairs  
University of Minnesota

**Bill Goins****Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support for the 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant – I494: US 169 to Airport Project**  
March 17, 2021 at 10:57 AMThe logo for FedEx Express, featuring the word "Fed" in a large, bold, black font, followed by "Express" in a smaller, black font below it.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available.

The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Construction of the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 will greatly benefit commerce in the Twin Cities Area and I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at 651-252-3610 or [hrggray@fedex.com](mailto:hrggray@fedex.com)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hal Gray".

Hal Gray  
Senior Manager  
FedEx Express  
651-252-3610  
[hrggray@fedex.com](mailto:hrggray@fedex.com)



Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available.

The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Construction of the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 will greatly benefit (my constituents/employees/community, etc.) and I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at (fill in your information).

Sincerely,

Dawn Gardner  
Director of Transportation and Trade Compliance

Starkey

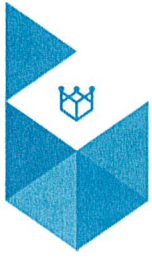


Hear better. Live better.

Dawn Gardner  
Director of Transportation and Trade Compliance | Starkey  
6700 Washington Ave. S | Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
T: 952-828-9223 | M: 952-334-2739 | F: 952-828-9251

[starkey.com](https://www.starkey.com) | [starkeypro.com](https://www.starkeypro.com) | [map](#) | [email](#)





Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available.

The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Construction of the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 will greatly benefit (my constituents/employees/community, etc.) and I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at (fill in your information).

Sincerely,

James Berge  
Director of Quality Assurance  
King Solutions, Inc.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The portion of I-494 from the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport to Highway 169 is an important corridor for the statewide users, the commuting public, freight, and those accessing regional destinations. MnDOT, along with their partners, have developed a vision for the freeway with an implementation plan to phase construction as funding becomes available.

The vision includes managed lanes, access reconfiguration, and reconstruction of the I494/I35W interchange. Projects 1 and 2 construct half of the managed lanes, all of the access reconfiguration and most of the I494/I35W interchange. These improvements to the corridor will reduce congestion, improve mobility, and improve safety.

Construction of the I494: US 169 to Airport Projects 1 and 2 will greatly benefit my constituents, employees, community along with business development and I am writing to express my support.

Please give this 2021 INFRA Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know. I may be reached at (fill in your information).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MC', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Matthew Castle

Vice President Global Forwarding Products

CH Robinson