

December 5th, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington D.C. 20590



SUBJECT: Highway 212 FASTLANE Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing to express The City of Cologne's support for Carver County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MNDOT) FASTLANE grant application for the expansion of Highway 212 from a two-lane highway to a four-lane highway between the City of Cologne and Carver.

Highway 212 serves a critical role in connecting the Twin Cities to South Dakota and Beyond and has been designated a High Priority Interregional Corridor in the Twin Cities, while also being placed on the National Highway System.

The two-lane gap in the Twin Cities poses a number of safety, access and mobility issues, while negatively impacting freight movement and economic development initiatives. To address these issues, Carver County and MnDOT have completed an extensive planning effort to determine innovative ways to expand the two-lane highway to a four-lane highway while reducing cost.

A four-lane highway will remove barriers to efficient freight movement, provide economic development opportunities at key locations, preserve existing infrastructure, and improve the corridor's mobility and safety for all users.

Furthermore, forty-one communities and local chambers of commerce have passed resolutions supporting improvements to Highway 212 to expand the capacity of this highway and the Board of Commissioners of every county along the corridor has passed such a resolution.

The proposed project will go a long way in supporting FASTLANE goals by improving freight connections, mobility and economic growth initiatives. We fully support this project and the application for FASTLANE funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Williams".

Scott Williams
Mayor, City of Cologne



**CITY OF COLOGNE
RESOLUTION 16-31
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A FASTLANE GRANT APPLICATION
FOR HIGHWAY 212 IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, Highway 212 serves a critical role in connecting the Twin Cities to South Dakota and Beyond and has been designated a High Priority Interregional Corridor in the Twin Cities, while also being placed on the National Highway System;

WHEREAS, Carver County, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is seeking FASTLANE funds to expand Highway 212 from a two-lane highway to a four-lane highway between the City Cologne and Carver;

WHEREAS, This two-lane gap poses a number of safety, access and mobility issues, while negatively impacting freight movement and economic development initiatives;

WHEREAS, To address these issues, Carver County and MnDOT have completed an extensive planning effort to determine innovative ways to expand the two-lane highway to a four-lane highway while reducing cost;

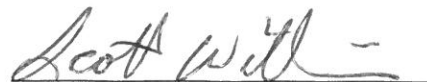
WHEREAS, The two-lane gap has been officially mapped and an Environmental Assessment has been approved;

WHEREAS, A four-lane highway will remove barriers to efficient freight movement, provide economic development opportunities at key locations, preserve existing infrastructure, and improve the corridor's mobility and safety for all users;

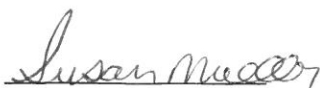
WHEREAS, forty-one communities and local chambers of commerce have passed resolutions supporting improvements to Highway 212 to expand the capacity of this highway and the Board of Commissioners of every county along the corridor has passed such a resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Cologne strongly supports this project and Carver County's application for funding under the FASTLANE grant program.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cologne, Minnesota, this 5th day of December, 2016.


Scott Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sue Mueller, City Clerk

M/ Evenski

Williams Aye

Meyer Aye Evenski Aye

S/ Szaroletta

Szaroletta Aye

McInnis Aye