

JOHN KLINE
2ND DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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April 26, 2013

Mr. Charles Zelle
Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)
395 John Ireland Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1899

Dear Commissioner Zelle:

Please accept this letter as an indication of my support for Goodhue County's grant application under the Minnesota Department of Transportation Corridor Investment Management Strategy initiative.

With this grant, Goodhue County plans to invest funding to construct an interchange at Trunk Highway (TH) 52 and Goodhue County Highway 9. TH 52 serves as a critical transportation link from the Twin Cities to Rochester, the home of the world-renowned Mayo Clinic. The highway has been a collaborative effort between Dakota, Goodhue, and Olmsted Counties to upgrade TH 52 to a freeway design and improve safety for travelers and commuters alike.

As you may recall, I recently wrote you a letter detailing concerns I share with my constituents about your department's plans to temporarily install a so-called U-turn at this intersection. Instead of a short term fix, we believe it is critical to set this project on the path toward securing funding for a full interchange. This intersection remains one of the more dangerous arteries along Highway 52 with over 80 crashes recorded between 2000-2011, including serious injuries or fatalities.

I respectfully request your full consideration of Goodhue County's grant application. Additionally, I would appreciate you keeping me apprised of developments as these grants are awarded and the department's plans for the intersection.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you and continuing to work with you to address this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Kline".

JOHN KLINE
Member of Congress

cc: Philip Schaffner – Minnesota Department of Transportation
Goodhue County Commissioners