November 29, 2023

Dovre Township Board

2196 66th Ave NE

Willmar, MN 56201

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Please include this letter of support in the Dovre Township application for the Local Road Improvement Program Grant. We are aware that Dovre Township is rebuilding Long Lake Road from County Road 25 to County Road 27, approximately 2.75 miles.

Following are a few reasons why I believe that this is an important project that should receive grant funding:

* Long Lake Road is part of the Glacial Ridge Scenic Byway and contains numerous historical sites that tell the story of the immigrant experience in this area as statehood was obtained by the State of Minnesota.
* It also has a rich history as a part of the Yellow Medicine Agency Trail that was utilized by the native indigenous population for transportation for thousands of years.
* This collector road serves over 265 parcels and a population of over 700 people utilize it on a daily basis for commuting to Willmar and New London/Spicer for work and school.
* The township engineer has determined that the road has reached the end of its life and needs to be reconstructed. This provides an opportunity to maintain the unique character of the road while enhancing it for future generations.
* Long Lake Road offers a enjoyable alternative travel route to MN23/71 for daily travel patterns.
* Adding multimodal use of the roadway will support the many residents that enjoy the bucolic nature of the area for walking and biking in a much safer environment.
* Completing this portion of the long-range plan to connect Willmar with the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center via the Glacial Ridge Scenic Byway will jump start the goal of including multimodal access to the byway for the Willmar area and visitors.
* This investment will preserve the life of this vital resource for the citizens of the State of Minnesota for many years to come.

 [In my household/at my farm/in my business/in my agency, I’ve experienced….]

Sincerely,