



April 27, 2009

Representative Stephanie Herseith Sandlin
331 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Herseith Sandlin:

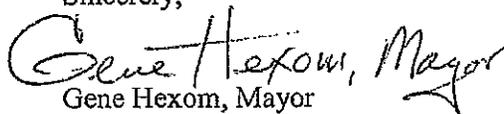
The City of Madison supports this request for federal assistance in the amount of \$23,700,000 to complete the construction of SD Highway 34 as a 4-lane from the City of Madison east to Interstate 29.

SD Highway 34 is the main corridor for the people that live in Madison and commute to Sioux Falls. The explosive growth of Sioux Falls (4,000 per year) is ranked 19th in the nation for rapid population growth is having a huge effect in relation to residential and recreational development in and around the Madison area. Located 8 miles east of Madison on SD Highway 34 is Dakota Ethanol, an ethanol production facility that injects 52,000 semi-trucks into the annual two-way traffic flow of SD Highway 34. The strong manufacturing base in Madison also contributes a significant amount of semi-truck traffic between Madison and Interstate 29. In addition to commuter, recreational and truck traffic, three school districts have bus routes twice daily that travel on SD Highway 34.

Public input has been received on multiple occasions during state, local, tribal and development association meetings. The SD Department of Transportation, City of Madison, City of Colman, Lake County Commission, Moody County Commission, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the Lake Madison Development Association all held public meetings where area residents were provided the opportunity to comment on the proposed SD Highway 34 expansion project.

This request is for 100% of the total estimated cost of SD Highway 34 as a 4-lane from the City of Madison east to Interstate 29 and there are no other specifically designated federal, state, local or private funding sources being utilized for this project.

Sincerely,


Gene Hexom, Mayor
City of Madison