



School buses and agricultural equipment share the 20-foot road top.

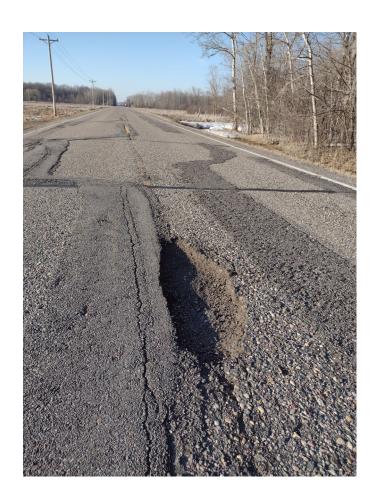




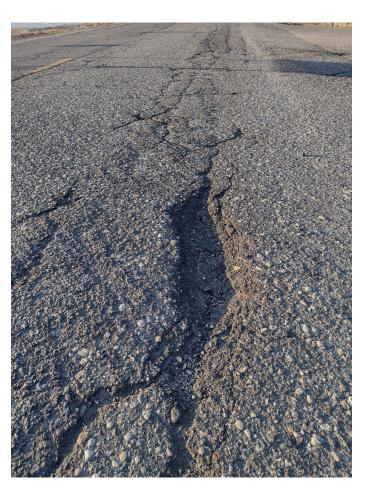
A poor subgrade and unforgiving roadside create dangerous driving conditions.







Roadway surface is well beyond minor repairs.







T. 320.252.7568 F. 320.252.6557

April 12, 2023

Senator Jeff Howe 95 University Avenue W Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2231 St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: SF 189 - Townline Road

Dear Senator Howe:

On behalf of the member jurisdictions of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization, I offer this letter as testimony in support of SF 189.

As you and I have spoken about on several occasions, Townline Road is an "old country road" that is being increasingly asked to function as an urban arterial. The design is substandard, the pavement continues to deteriorate, and there are increasing safety concerns. The roadway desperately needs to be rebuilt.

However, because ownership of the corridor is split between multiple townships, no single jurisdiction has the resources or authority to complete the entire project. Further, the roadway does not qualify for Federal transportation funds because MnDOT has classified it as a rural minor collector. Frankly, legislative funds are really the only viable option to complete the much-needed repairs.

The APO Policy Board regularly discusses our biggest regional transportation needs, and Townline Road is always a topic of conversation. Everyone recognizes the importance of the corridor, both now and for the future.

The Saint Cloud APO member jurisdictions appreciate your support for SF 189 to help our residents travel safely and efficiently throughout our region.

Sincerely,

Brian Gibson

Executive Director