

February 20, 2024

RE: SF3766 - Dahms

Dear Senator Dibble and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

The Southwest Corridor Transportation Coalition would like to go on record in support of SF3766, a bill to designate the bridge on Highway 212 as the Mayor Dave Smiglewski Memorial bridge.

The Southwest Corridor Transportation Coalition, which includes local governments all along the Highway 212 corridor, businesses, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, and many concerned citizens has been advocating for the expansion of Highway 212 to four lanes for decades. Prior to investments in upgrading this major US highway, the chokepoints in Carver and Hennepin Counties were felt by communities all along the corridor, even in places like Granite Falls. Mayor Smiglewski understood the value of the Highway 212 expansion and was a tireless advocate on behalf of his community. A reliable and safe transportation system is required to serve regional freight traffic, to attract businesses, and to respond to growth in the metropolitan area, and Mayor Smiglewski was a leader in supporting the funding and planning needed to make the expansion of Highway 212 a reality.

The Southwest Corridor Transportation Coalition strongly supports SF3766 and urges you to pass this legislation. This fitting tribute to Mayor Smiglewski will honor the work he did to make Highway 212 safer, stronger and less congested, leading to better freight and traffic flows and economic benefits for communities all along the corridor.

Sincerely,

President