



Minnesota Department of Transportation

395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155

15 - 1088

July 16, 2016

The Honorable Tim Kelly, Chair
House Transportation Policy & Finance Committee
559 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Frank Hornstein, DFL Co-Lead
House Transportation Policy & Finance Committee
243 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Ron Erhardt, DFL Co-Lead
House Transportation Policy & Finance Committee
245 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Scott Dibble, Chair
Senate Transportation and Public Safety Committee
111 Capitol
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable John C. Pederson
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Transportation and Public Safety Committee
27 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: TH 371, I-35 Bridges in Steele County, and the TH 169 Nine Mile Creek Design-Build Projects

Dear Legislators:

Minnesota Statutes 161.3412 requires the Commissioner of Transportation to notify the committee chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives with jurisdiction over transportation policy and finance each time the Design-Build method for procurement is used and explain why the method was chosen.

MnDOT will use the Design-Build procurement method to design and construct the roughly \$60 million highway expansion project on Highway 371 between Nisswa and Jenkins. The highway will be expanded from 2 to 4 lanes over this stretch and re-routed east around the city of Pequot Lakes. Design-Build was selected primarily to ensure the project can be let in time to begin construction in spring 2016. A secondary benefit was the transference of earthwork quantity risks. This project is planned to be let in October 2015 and constructed during the 2016-17 construction seasons.

MnDOT will use the Design-Build procurement method to design and construct the roughly \$25 million replacement of several bridges on I-35 and Highway 14 near Owatonna. Design-Build was selected primarily to ensure the project can be let in time to begin construction in 2016. The project will most likely be let with a low-bid award structure and construction will occur during the 2016-17 construction seasons.

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Lastly, MnDOT will use the Design-Build procurement method to design and construct the roughly \$65 million replacement of the bridge carrying Highway 169 over Nine Mile Creek. Design-Build was selected primarily to ensure the project is let in time for the July 2016 letting. A secondary benefit is the acquisition of contractor input into the challenging constructability concerns at the constrained location. The project is planned to be constructed during the 2016-17 construction seasons.

Please feel free to call the following programmatic and/or project contacts if you have questions:

- Design-Build Program: Peter Davich – (651) 366-4233
- TH 371: Jim Hallgren – (218) 828-5797
- Steele County Bridges: Jay Hietpas – (651) 366-469
- Nine Mile Creek: April Crockett – (651) 234-7727

Sincerely,



Susan M. Mulvihill, P.E.
Deputy Commissioner, Chief Engineer

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