DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

***Via Email Only***

September 28, 2018

The Honorable Paul Torkelson, Chair
House Transportation Finance Committee
381 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Scott Newman, Chair
Senate Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
3105 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Linda Runbeck, Chair
House Transportation & Regional Governance Policy Committee
417 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Scott Dibble
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
2213 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

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

The Honorable Connie Bernardy, DFL Lead
House Transportation & Regional Governance Policy Committee
253 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Interstate 94 St. Michael to Albertville, Trunk Highway 14 (Owatonna to Dodge Center) Expansion and Southbound Trunk Highway 52 Improvement Design-Build Projects

Dear Legislators:

Minnesota Statutes 161.3412, subdivision 3(b) requires the Commissioner of Transportation to notify the chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and transportation finance each time the commissioner decides to use the design-build method for procurement and explain why the method was chosen.

MnDOT has decided to use the design-build delivery method to design and construct the approximately $65,000,000 I-94 St. Michael to Albertville project. This Corridors of Commerce program project involves the addition of a third general-purpose through lane to I-94 in both directions from St Michael, where the 3-lane section currently ends, to Albertville. It also involves the re-paving of I-94, the addition of a collector-distributor road through Albertville, bridge replacements and some interchange improvements. The project is planned for a February 2019 letting with construction beginning in the summer of 2019. Design-build was identified as the appropriate delivery system for the project because of its large size and complexity and a desire to capture any traffic flow or staging improvements the contractor may propose.

MnDOT has also decided to use the design-build delivery method to design and construct the roughly $145,000,000 realignment and expansion of TH 14 between Owatonna and Dodge Center. This Corridors of Commerce program project involves the construction of a new 4-lane alignment for TH 14 and the construction of necessary bridges and other related infrastructure. The project could be let in 2019 with construction starting 3 months after letting. Design-build was identified as the appropriate delivery system for the project because of its large size and complexity and to have the contractor assume the grading quantity risk, which they are better positioned to manage.

Finally, MnDOT has decided to use the design-build delivery method to design and construct the roughly $60,000,000 southbound TH 52 improvement project in Goodhue County. This project involves the reconstruction of southbound TH 52 between Highway 19 and County Road 7, the replacement of several bridges and some intersection/access improvements. MnDOT plans to let the project in late 2020 with construction starting in the spring of 2021. Design-build was identified as the appropriate delivery system for the project because of its large size and complexity and to gain contractor input into traffic control and other concepts.

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

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| Design-Build Program Manager: | Peter Davich, 651 366-4233 |
| I-94 Albertville Project Manager: | Claudia Dumont, 320 223-6530 |
| Highway 14 Expansion Project Manager: | Tory Thompson, 507 446-5517 |
| Trunk Highway 52 Project Manager: | Jai Kalsy, 507 286-7545 |

Sincerely,

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