

November 1, 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: 2018 Corridors of Commerce report

Dear Legislators:

MnDOT is please to present the report to the legislature about the Corridors of Commerce program.

This report fulfills the requirements laid out in [Minn. Stat. 161.088, subd. 7](#). The 2013 Minnesota Legislature created the Corridors of Commerce program and authorized the sale of up to \$300 million in new trunk highway bonds for the construction, reconstruction and improvement of trunk highways which are not already in the state's State Transportation Improvement Program, and which will further the two major goals for the program:

- Provide additional highway capacity on segments where there are currently bottlenecks in the system.
- Improve the movement of freight and reduce barriers to commerce.

In the 2014 legislative session, the legislature provided an additional \$31.5 million in trunk highway funds for fiscal years 2014 and 2015. Then, during the 2017 legislative session, \$300 million in trunk highway bonds over four years was provided to the program. In 2018, an additional \$400 million in trunk highway bonding was approved for the program.

The Corridors of Commerce program has already accelerated several projects around the state. Please contact me with any questions, or you may contact Patrick Weidemann at pat.weidemann@state.mn.us or at (651) 366-3758.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Zelle
Commissioner