

Via Email Only

October 16, 2017

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: 35W North MnPASS and TH 2 Erskine Concrete 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 \$200,000,000 I-35W North MnPASS project between Highway 36 in Roseville and Sunset Avenue in Lino Lakes. This project involves the addition of a MnPASS lane to I-35W in both directions, the re-paving of I-35W, and the reconstruction or rehabilitation of most bridges within the 12-mile project limits. In addition, roughly 4 miles of new noise wall will be constructed along the edges of the corridor. The project is planned for a September 2018 letting and construction, including lane closures, which will begin in the spring of 2019. Design-Build was identified as the appropriate delivery system for the project due to its large size and complexity as well as the need to accelerate construction to reduce the impact of its closures.

MnDOT has also decided to use the Design-Build delivery method to design and construct the roughly \$15 million concrete replacement project on Highway 2 in and around the city of Erskine. This project involves the reconstruction of Highway 2 pavement, the rehabilitation of two bridge structures, and the rehabilitation of some weigh station concrete pavement. The project is planned for an April 2018 letting with construction occurring in either 2018 or 2019. Design-Build was identified as the appropriate delivery system for the project to accelerate the delivery of the project before the funds expire at the end of the fiscal year.

Finally, in the Design-Build legislative notice from February 21, 2017, it was stated that the I-35W Underground Stormwater Storage project would be delivered using the Design-Build delivery method. That decision has since been changed and the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) delivery method will be used to deliver the project as stated in the CMGC notice on September 5, 2017. MnDOT would like to benefit from a contractor's expertise as the scope is developed for the project while maintaining control of the design, which is not typically possible in Design-Build.

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

Design-Build Program Manager:	Peter Davich , 651-366-4233
I-35W MnPASS Pre-Letting Project Manager:	Jerome Adams , 651-234-7611
Highway 2 Erskine Concrete:	Jim Bittmann , 218-755-6543

Sincerely,



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