



Minnesota Department of Transportation
Transportation Building
395 John Ireland Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155

February 9, 2010

Dear Citizens of Minnesota,

I am pleased to share with you this adopted Minnesota Comprehensive Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan. This plan is the result of extensive collaboration during the past year between the Minnesota Department of Transportation and citizens, stakeholders and partners throughout Minnesota. I want to thank everyone who took the time to participate in our outreach meetings and provide comments and suggestions on the draft plan.

The Comprehensive Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan establishes a vision for rail in Minnesota. A vibrant freight rail system, together with a comprehensive passenger rail system, will help ensure Minnesota economic competitiveness and quality of life.

As the state's transportation leader, Mn/DOT embraces its responsibility to uphold the vision and policies presented in this plan. The success of Minnesota's transportation system depends on the coordinated efforts of many public and private providers, and the policies and strategies outlined in this plan provide the framework for our joint efforts. Mn/DOT will continue to look for opportunities to involve citizens, stakeholders and partners in the implementation of this plan and in future investment and policy decisions. Together, we can realize the shared vision of a safe, efficient and sustainable transportation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas K. Sorel'.

Thomas K. Sorel

Commissioner

An Equal Opportunity Employer

