



**CARVER
COUNTY**

minnesota

For immediate release

May 20, 2019

Contact: Eric Sieger, Communications Manager, esieger@co.carver.mn.us
[\(952\) 361-1038](tel:9523611038)

CARVER COUNTY CONTINUES WORK TO SECURE HIGHWAY 212 FUNDING

CHASKA, MINN.—Carver County’s recent efforts at landing Federal grant money to support Highway 212’s expansion to four lanes continues to receive positive feedback from officials.

The County submitted grant applications through the BUILD (The Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) program for both segments of Highway 212 between Chaska and Norwood Young America that remain two lanes. While the County wasn’t funded in this round of applications, County officials, led by Director of Public Works Lyndon Robjent, met recently with the U.S. Department of Transportation to receive feedback on the County’s proposal.

Federal officials shared that the project’s first phase, from Chaska to Cologne, earned a spot in the evaluation’s top tier. The County requested \$12 million for this portion of the \$46.5 million project. Only 250 projects out of 850 applications received the group’s highest ranking. Ninety-two applications were funded.

The project’s \$65 million second phase from Cologne to Norwood fell into the second-highest category when ranked by Federal officials. The County wrote the grant for \$25 million, the maximum allowable under this program. The second phase’s funding gap sits at \$38 million. Officials stated that this phase received a slightly lower rating given the project development is not as far along as other projects. They reinforced the need to develop detailed lifecycle costs and before and after safety statistics, which means the County should move forward with detailed design and costing efforts.

“All in all, the applications were strong, and this is actually positive news for the County moving forward,” Robjent said. “This is an extremely competitive process and one that, ultimately, we feel will end positively for the project and the County.” He also noted the County recently submitted to a different Federal grant program known as INFRA (Infrastructure For Rebuilding America) to support both phases, and County officials hope to hear back this summer on this funding source. County officials continue to pursue other financial support from the State of Minnesota, as well as engaging legislators who can support the County’s efforts at the State and Federal level.

more...

Highway 212 funding update, two of two...

“The safety of residents and businesses that utilize Highway 212 continues to serve as a top priority for the County Board,” Commissioner Randy Maluchnik said. “Our staff, along with countless partners from Cities, Townships and Counties west of us, have worked tirelessly to secure the necessary funding for this critical roadway. We will continue this work until we reach our goal. We know all too well the safety issues and bottlenecks these two segments cause.”

####