

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Walz  
Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

July 10, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I would like to express my full support for the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion from New Ulm to Nicollet, which is a Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) grant application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's 2019 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant program.

The \$25 million federal grant would help fund the estimated \$85 million project, which is currently unfunded, to expand Highway 14 to four lanes from New Ulm to Nicollet. MnDOT and local partners are committed to fund the difference to construct the project if selected as a BUILD grant recipient.

This project is very important to the continued economic vitality and public safety of southern Minnesota and it is fully supported by local, state and federal political representatives.

This is the missing segment of a rural corridor that serves as the key artery for the southern Minnesota economy. The corridor is a vital route for the movement of freight, implements of husbandry and agricultural material.

With the corridor carrying such a great deal of freight traffic, safety is a big priority. Many crashes involving fatal and serious injuries have occurred on this route. This BUILD application contains key safety improvements that would produce immediate positive results.

For these reasons, a BUILD grant will help southern Minnesota and the entire State. Thank you for your consideration and approval of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Walz".

Tim Walz  
Governor



June 25, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners, I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time it has experienced growth; Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've

**Vision Statement**

*Setting the standard for providing superior and efficient county government services through leadership, accountability and innovation to a growing and diverse society.*

**Leadership. Efficiency. Accountability.  
Innovation. Integrity.**

**Mission Statement**

*Providing efficient services with innovation and accountability.*



worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dennis Kemp  
Chair-Nicollet County Board of Commissioners

Cc: Seth Greenwood, P.E., PWD/County Engineer; Ryan Krosch, County Administrator



## RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT MNDOT BUILD GRANT APPLICATION



**WHEREAS**, U.S Highway 14 is a major freight corridor across southern Minnesota and serves a vital role in connecting individuals and businesses in communities and regional trade centers;

**WHEREAS**, Only 12 miles are left to fund of U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet until all 110 miles of the highway from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway;

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet has a history of severe and fatal crashes that will continue to exist if improvements to the highway aren't made;

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet remains a priority for Nicollet County and local partners;


**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NICOLLET COUNTY Supports:**

- MnDOT's application for a grant to help fund expanding U.S. Highway 14 under the Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Program
- Expanding U.S. Highway 14 from a 2-lane highway to a 4-lane highway from CSAH 37 to the bypass of the City of Nicollet
- Constructing an interchange at the intersection of Highway 14 with CSAH 37 with local cost participation of approximately \$1,500,000.
- Constructing an interchange at the intersection of Highway 14 and the extension of CSAH 24 and realignment of CSAH 12 in Courtland with local cost participation of approximately \$2,000,000.
- Constructing restricted crossing U-turns (RCUTs) from 571st Ln to 561st Ave.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Kemp, Chair  
Nicollet County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Krosch  
County Administrator and Clerk to the Board

**CITY OF NICOLLET  
PO BOX 547  
NICOLLET, MN 56074**

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
City Council  
City of Nicollet  
Nicollet, MN



**Resolution No. 07-08-19A**  
**Supporting the Expansion of US Highway 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm**

WHEREAS, U.S Highway 14 is a major freight corridor across southern Minnesota and serves a vital role in connecting individuals and businesses in communities and regional trade centers;

WHEREAS, Only 12 miles are left to fund of U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet until all 110 miles of the highway from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway;

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet has a history of severe and fatal crashes that will continue to exist if improvements to the highway aren't made;

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet remains a priority for the City of Nicollet and local partners;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of NICOLLET Supports:

- MnDOT's application for a grant to help fund expanding U.S. Highway 14 under the Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Program
- Expanding U.S. Highway 14 from a 2-lane highway to a 4-lane highway from CSAH 37 to the bypass of the City of Nicollet
- Constructing an interchange at the intersection of Highway 14 with CSAH 37
- Constructing an interchange at the intersection of Highway 14 and the extension of CSAH 24 and realignment of CSAH 12 in Courtland
- Constructing restricted crossing U-turns (RCUTs) from 571st Ln to 561st Ave

Signed:



Fred Froehlich, Mayor

Attest:



Vanessa Drill, City Clerk/Treasurer



DEAR SECRETARY CHAO,

It was FEB. 22, 1989, & my pager had just beeped and blared out, "Nicoller Fire & Rescue, you have a 10-52 - Accident with injuries, intersection of Hwy 14 & 99". When I pulled up on the scene, I could see it was an ST10 Pickup that had been hit broadside on the driver's door by another vehicle. I quickly realized it was my uncle Orlando, P. Kesslor. After we pried his door off, we carefully applied oxygen, a C-collar & backboarded him & placed him on a gurney as we walked him to the ambulance. I held his hand and told him he would be OK, knowing that he probably wouldn't make it to Saint Joseph's Hospital in Mandan. That was the last day of his life, Hwy 14 had claimed another of its many victims.

During my 20 years as a First Responder and a Volunteer Fireman, I responded to many accidents & fatalities on Hwy 14 from Nicoller to Courtland, like the one about 4 miles west of Nicoller when 2 semis collided head on, the driver of the semi carrying bricks was crushed in his cab, all I could see of him was his right arm sticking out of the cab, & I did get a pulse on his wrist as his life



egged away, the other driver had been dismembered & one of our firefighters carried his leg to the ambulance to accompany his body to the funeral home.

A couple of years later on that same section of highway I tried to comfort my cousin, Nathan Bode who was driving his school bus to pick up kids on his route to Nicolet Public School when two women on their way to work in New Ulm skidded into his lane and collided head on with his bus. The driver was dead at the scene and her passenger was severely injured and may not have survived.

These are just some of the memories I have from responding to accidents on that deadly stretch of highway from Nicolet to New Ulm. The stretch from Nicolet to Courtland is especially dangerous because Swan Lake a 10,000 acre Prairie Pothole Marsh lies parallel to the highway. The marsh with its large surface of frozen water in the winter causes drifting snow to glaze a long stretch, several miles of highway between these two cities.



Separating the heavy traffic from  
2 lanes to 4 lanes would not only  
bring economic development to our  
area but would spare countless  
friends and families of the pain and  
suffering of losing loved ones.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul L. Hochstetler Mayor  
City of Nicolet

**City of Courtland**  
300 Railroad Street  
Courtland, MN 56021  
507-354-7055 FAX:507-354-8156  
e-mail: [ctlclerk@comcast.net](mailto:ctlclerk@comcast.net)

City of Courtland

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

The City of Courtland is one of the communities along Highway 14 that relies heavily on this critical piece of infrastructure and benefits from its regional connectivity. We are a community that has seen a sustained growth in population since 1970 when we had 300 people. Now we have over 600 people within the city limits. Numerous homes in Courtland have direct access to the existing Highway 14, which has an upwards of 8,000 vehicles a day travelling on it. This mix of residential use and through traffic raises safety concerns throughout our community. As the traffic levels on Highway 14 continue to increase and our town continues to grow, we are excited about a bypass of Courtland to the north of the existing Highway.

Since 1998 we've been formally planning for the bypass of Highway 14 around Courtland in our City Comprehensive Plan, which we developed to acknowledge the need to plan for future growth and development of our community. In that respect, we fully support the BUILD grant application that helps our community in its continued desire to grow and serve its citizens as a safe and flourishing place to live, work and play.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



The City of Courtland Mayor and Council Members

Mission of the City of Courtland

We envision Courtland as a city with managed growth which offers a high quality of life  
for individuals, families and businesses at an affordable cost.





## *City of New Ulm*

100 North Broadway  
New Ulm, Minnesota 56073  
507 233 2114

*Office of the Mayor*   **Robert "Bob" Beussman**



The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject:            Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

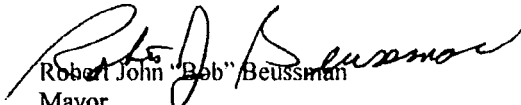
Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs. With the growth of our 3M, AMPI, Kraft-Heinz manufacturing plants and the growth of hog farms,



Highway 14 is experiencing a much higher traffic load. Almost all of the agriculture products must use Highway 14 to get their product to world markets.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

  
Robert John "Bob" Beussman  
Mayor

**RESOLUTION NO. 19 - 66**

Councilor Fischer offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Highway 14 is a major freight corridor across southern Minnesota and serves a vital role in connecting individuals and businesses in communities and regional trade centers;

**WHEREAS**, only 12 miles are left to fund of U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet until all 110 miles of the highway from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway;

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet has a history of severe and fatal crashes that will continue to exist if improvements to the highway aren't made;

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet remains a priority for the City of New Ulm and local partners;

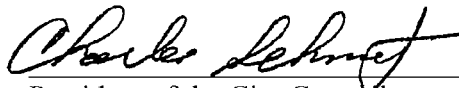
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of New Ulm, Brown County, Minnesota Supports:

- MnDOT's application for a grant to help fund expanding U.S. Highway 14 under the Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Program
- Expanding U.S. Highway 14 from a 2-lane highway to a 4-lane highway from CSAH 37 to the bypass of the City of Nicollet
- Constructing an interchange at the intersection of Highway 14 with CSAH 37
- Constructing an interchange at the intersection of Highway 14 and the extension of CSAH 24 and realignment of CSAH 12 in Courtland
- Constructing restricted crossing U-turns (RCUTs) from 571st Ln to 561st Ave

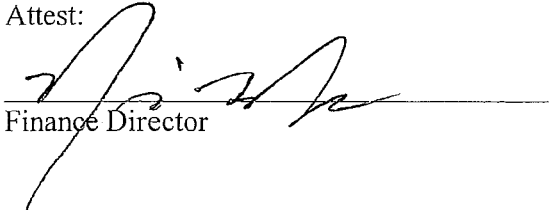
The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilor Christian and, the roll being called, the following vote was recorded:

Voting Aye:	Councilors Christian, Fischer, Mack, Schultz and President Schmitz.
Voting Nay:	None.
Not Voting:	None.

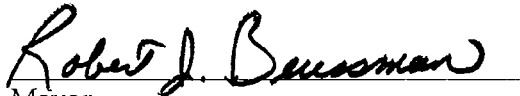
Whereupon said resolution was declared to have been duly adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

The above resolution approved July 2, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor



## *City of New Ulm*

*Economic Development Authority*

*100 North Broadway*

*New Ulm, Minnesota 56073*

*Telephone: (507) 359-8227*

*Fax: (507) 359-8281*

*Email: [nueda@newulmmn.gov](mailto:nueda@newulmmn.gov)*

*Web Site: [www.newulmmn.gov](http://www.newulmmn.gov)*

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June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the US Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 143 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The



improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Heather Bregel  
Housing Coordinator  
New Ulm Economic Development Authority



July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

As President of the U.S. Highway 14 Partnership and a member of the Mankato City Council, I submit this letter in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for a Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant to help fund the expansion of U.S. Highway 14 between the cities of Nicollet and New Ulm in southern Minnesota. The U.S. Highway 14 Partnership represents cities, counties, chambers of commerce, businesses, and individuals along the Highway 14 corridor, all of whom have joined together in pursuit of one goal: to expand Highway 14 to four lanes all the way from New Ulm to Rochester.

As the only direct route connecting the growing economic centers of New Ulm, Mankato, Owatonna, and Rochester, Highway 14 is the lifeblood of southern Minnesota. In total, more than 350,000 people live along the Highway 14 corridor, making it the most densely populated highway corridor in Minnesota without a continuous four-lane connection.

Because of its importance to our regional agricultural and manufacturing economy, as well as our world-class medical facilities, the expansion of Highway 14 from two to four lanes between New Ulm and Rochester has been a goal since the 1960s. While we have made gradual progress in expanding the highway, the 12 miles between the cities of Nicollet and New Ulm on the west end of the corridor remain unfunded and unscheduled for expansion.

Since one of the primary purposes of the BUILD Grant program is to support projects that play a critical role in freight movement, Highway 14 should rise to the top of the list. The remaining two-lane segment of the highway is a significant impediment to commerce. It results in inefficient movement of goods for existing businesses and discourages new industries from considering our communities because access to a four-lane highway is vital to their operations.

Moreover, forcing the significant truck traffic on Highway 14 to share a two-lane road with passenger vehicles has too often had deadly consequences. This two-lane highway experiences a rate of heavy commercial traffic that is on par with many four or six-lane interstate highways. Over the years, crash data has shown that accidents on Highway 14 are significantly more likely to result in a death or debilitating injury than other corridors in the state. Despite gradual improvements, the corridor remains extremely dangerous today, with the most recent fatality coming just last year.

Highway 14 has killed or injured so many that just saying the words "Highway 14" in southern Minnesota evokes frustration, dread, and mourning. The corridor's safety issues are well known and well documented in the local press. In January 1999, the New Ulm Journal published an editorial entitled, "Why wait until 2020?" urging policymakers to fund the project as soon as possible. Unfortunately, progress was slow to come. Eleven years later,

the Mankato Free Press published a multi-page feature entitled "Decade of Death," noting that Highway 14 had a fatal accident rate 94% greater than the state average. Now, while some progress has been made, lives continue to be lost. Nine years after its "Decade of Death" feature, the Mankato Free Press published an article calling U.S. 14 a "Highway to Hell."

The BUILD Grant application before you today could be the final piece in ending this decades-long struggle to build a safe, efficient highway that we don't have to dread our loved ones driving on every day. Please approve this grant application so that no more families have to lose loved ones unnecessarily, and no more of our friends and neighbors have their lives irreparably changed by serious injuries.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Foreman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and last name "Foreman" clearly distinguishable.

Karen Foreman  
Mankato City Council Member  
President, U.S. Highway 14 Partnership

***Brown County Highway Department  
1901 North Jefferson Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
Phone (507) 233-5700 Fax (507) 354-6857***

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding  
Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

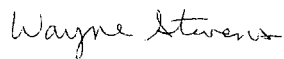


Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners supports the use of BUILD funds to finally complete this corridor project that has been progressing over the last 60 years.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Stevens".

Wayne Stevens  
Brown County Engineer  
Brown County, Minnesota

Sent via email doris.degenstein@state.mn.us  
Cedric Thom  
Nicollet Township  
44464 478<sup>th</sup> St  
Nicollet, MN 56074

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Cedric Thom  
Supervisor Chair  
Nicollet Township

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2301**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
325 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2472

MANKATO OFFICE  
11 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, SUITE 301  
MANKATO, MN 56001  
(507) 323-6090

ROCHESTER OFFICE  
1530 GREENVIEW DR. SW, SUITE 207  
ROCHESTER, MN 55902  
(507) 323-6090

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I write to urge strong consideration for the U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project application. I represent the project area and can personally attest to the necessity of this project.

Your approval of the BUILD funding application for this critical piece of infrastructure will make a huge difference for residents in and around New Ulm, Minnesota.

The Highway 14 Corridor project has been promised for almost 50 years. Members of Congress, from former Rep. Ancher Nelsen (R-MN-02, first elected in 1958) to my predecessor, Rep. Tim Walz (D-MN-01, first elected in 2006), who now serves as Governor of Minnesota, have advocated for this project. The time to complete the last 12-mile stretch is now.

- This section is a major conduit for agriculture and freight. Heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic as compared to the approximately 8 percent of heavy commercial traffic on other Minnesota state highways.
- The high volume of commercial traffic makes this section one of the most deadly stretches of highway in Minnesota including a recent fatality in 2018.
- New Ulm is the largest city in Minnesota without direct access to a 4-lane highway
- I have met personally with city/county officials and business leaders and discussed how the locality has endured lost business expansion and relocation opportunities due to inadequate transportation infrastructure.

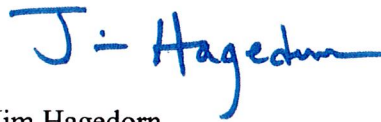
The purpose of the BUILD program is to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas. Residents, businesses, farmers, manufacturers, truckers and government officials have tirelessly promoted this project to provide safe and reliable infrastructure to our region.

Today, in bipartisan fashion, I join with Governor Walz, numerous state legislators, local

officials and my First District constituents to strongly encourage you to grant approval to this long-overdue project under the BUILD program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Hagedorn". The signature is stylized, with a large "J" and a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Jim Hagedorn  
Member of Congress

CC: Tim Walz, Governor, State of Minnesota  
Doris Degenstein, Minnesota Department of Transportation

AMY KLOBUCHAR  
MINNESOTA

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY

COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

JUDICIARY

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development Grant Program, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Dear Secretary Chao:

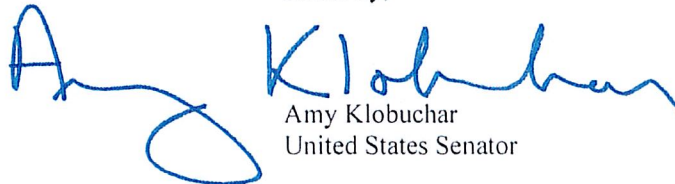
I am writing in support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)'s application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant. If awarded, MnDOT would use the funding to continue the expansion of Highway 14, ensuring better safety and efficiency for commuters and businesses in the region.

Highway 14 is the primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways in Southern Minnesota. Countless rural communities rely on the east-west highway for access to commerce, agriculture, healthcare, and tourist destinations. Compared to the state average of eight percent, heavy commercial traffic accounts for up to 17 percent of all Highway 14 traffic. While high commercial traffic has helped boost local economies, it has also contributed to dangerous road conditions. Countless state and local officials have referred to Highway 14 as one of the deadliest roadways in Minnesota.

Funding from the BUILD Grant would be used to finish converting Highway 14 from a two-lane highway to a four-lane divided highway. Since 1960, 98 miles of the 110-mile roadway have already been expanded to account for increasing traffic. Only the 12 miles between Nicollet and New Ulm remain in their original structure. Unfortunately, this stretch in particular continues to cause safety issues, including a recent fatality in 2018. If approved, the completion of this project would support the needs of Southern Minnesota by ensuring reliable and safe infrastructure for commuters and businesses alike.

Again, I support the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for funding through the Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development Grant. If you have any questions please contact Rommel Lee in my Minnesota office at (612) 727-5220 or by email at [Rommel\\_Lee@Klobuchar.Senate.Gov](mailto:Rommel_Lee@Klobuchar.Senate.Gov).

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



**SENATOR GARY H. DAHMS**

Senate District 16  
Assistant Majority Leader

2111 Minnesota Senate Building  
95 University Ave. W.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

(651) 296-8138  
sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn



**Senate**

**State of Minnesota**

July 3, 2019

United States Department of Transportation  
Attn: Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the state legislators representing the City of New Ulm, Minnesota and U.S. Highway 14, we request that the U.S. Department of Transportation support the Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for the U.S. Highway 14 expansion. Grant funds from the federal BUILD program will help complete the final 12 mile stretch of this corridor and greatly increase the safety of our constituents and the mobility of our district's economy.

It is estimated that 1,000 commercial trucks are based out of New Ulm. These vehicles and the businesses they serve are dependent on Highway 14. The highway's dangerous intersections, coupled with the significant heavy truck traffic, impede both traveler safety and the flow of commerce in our region.

Projections show our region's population, traffic counts, and industries will experience significant growth in the next 20 years. The longer the four-lane expansion is delayed, the more expensive the projects get, the more dangerous and inadequate the highway becomes, and the more economic opportunities are lost.

We appreciate your consideration of our request. We are available to answer any questions you may have and look forward to working with you to ensure Highway 14's safety and strengthen our region's growing economy.

Sincerely,

Gary Dahms  
State Senator, District 16

Paul Torkelson  
State Representative, District 16B

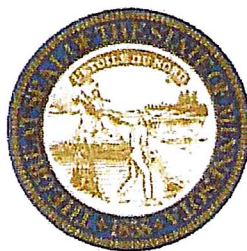
cc: Bob Beussman, Mayor of New Ulm



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**COMMITTEES:** Commerce & Consumer Protection Finance & Policy - Chair  
Capital Investment • E-12 Education Policy • E-12 Education Finance • Rules & Administration

**Jeff Brand**  
State Representative



## Minnesota House of Representatives

US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

It is with an utmost sense of urgency that I request full consideration for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant to help complete the "deadliest section of highway in Minnesota" from Nicollet to New Ulm. As the State Representative of District 19A, I humbly encourage you to find a way to leverage state resources with the aid of federal funds in this manner.

Perhaps there is no better highways in our state to receive these dollars. And perhaps others will find compelling reasons for you to allocate the grant for their projects. But please also consider the loss of life and the families that have been devastated by continuing to provide a deficient transportation system in the corridor of commerce from two regional commercial/industrial centers. Governor Tim Walz stated in his State of the State address that "145 people have been killed on that highway."

The last fatality on Highway 14 along that section of highway was on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Michael Reinharts kissed dropped his children off at school and never made it to work that morning when he collided head on with another vehicle. Both lanes were covered with ice at the time. His mother, Onie Reinharts, gave testimony at a March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 House Transportation committee field hearing for House File 538, relating to capital investment; appropriating money for reconstruction of marked U.S. Highway 14 between the cities of New Ulm and Nicollet; authorizing the sale and issuance of trunk highway bonds.

In closing, please consider the evidence and carefully consider this investment into public safety and commerce for Southern Minnesota. It is my pleasure for you to contact my office with any questions or further inquiries. You can reach me by phone at (651) 296-6834 or by email [Rep.Jeff.Brand@house.mn](mailto:Rep.Jeff.Brand@house.mn).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Jeff Brand", is written over a circular stamp that partially overlaps the signature.

Jeff Brand



**Senator John Jasinski**  
Senate District 24  
2101 Minnesota Senate Building  
95 University Avenue West  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 296-0284  
sen.john.jasinski@senate.mn



## Senate

State of Minnesota

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.



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**Committees:** Vice-Chair of Transportation, Capital Investment,  
Local Government and State Government and Elections

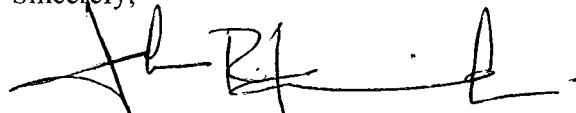
**Serving:** Dodge, Rice, Steele and Waseca Counties



Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Jasinski", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator John R. Jasinski  
Minnesota Senate District 24



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 25, 2019

MnDOT District 7  
Attn: Doris Degenstein  
2151 Bassett Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001

Re: US Highway 14 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant

Dear US Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao,

The citizens of North Mankato and the greater Mankato metropolitan statistical area (MSA) have a heightened appreciation of the need for a quality, safe highway system after living along US Highway 14, Minnesota's most dangerous 2 lane highway. Nearly every resident in our local communities can cite a personal story of injury or loss of a loved one along this corridor providing the source of our frustration over the failure to complete it.

Therefore, our citizens and businesses have been ardent supporters of the Highway 14 Partnership's (<http://ushighway14.com/>) continuing efforts to attract transportation system funding for over 40 years to address this most dangerous stretch of highway. We are strong supporters of a collaborative funding strategy utilizing state and federal funding to complete the 4 lane link between Nicollet and New Ulm which daily hosts the highest semi traffic per capita in the state. These highway accessibility and safety issues directly impact our communities' viability as one of Minnesota's top economic generators.

Minnesota can no longer afford the haphazard, politicized Band-Aid financing approach to sustain one of the state's largest assets, its highway system. Therefore, we applaud MNDOT's \$25 million submission to the US Department of Transportation's 2019 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant program. Coupling these federal funding dollars with MNDOT funding would go a long way toward realizing the full funding necessary to complete this \$85 million project.

The citizens of North Mankato and Minnesota anxiously await a collaborative resolution to our continuing cry to "Fix14Now!"

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Dehen  
Mayor, City of North Mankato

10 Civic Center Plaza  
Post Office 3368  
Mankato, MN 56002-3368

Phone: (507) 387-8600  
Fax: (507) 388-7530  
[www.mankatomn.gov](http://www.mankatomn.gov)



July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

*Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application*

Dear Secretary Chao:

The City of Mankato supports the project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program. We are vitally interested in assuring that it continues to appropriately invest in statewide economic growth through transportation projects that safely move freight and people throughout Minnesota.

Despite significant local, state, and federal investment to date, U.S. Highway 14 remains the highest populated corridor in Greater Minnesota not to be connected by a continuous four-lane highway in a region with a track record of producing economic progress through transportation improvements. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Minnesota has experienced the positive economic impact of previous Highway 14 expansions with projects like the Mankato Wal-mart Distribution Center that brought more than 400 jobs to Greater Minnesota. This type of impact can be realized in communities across an expanded Highway 14, but only through important funding sources like the BUILD program investing in Greater Minnesota.

Funding for the Highway 14 corridor to complete the last 12 miles of a 110 mile Highway 14 corridor from New Ulm to Rochester will finalize a four-lane highway that is safe and reliable for its significant commercial volume and for all travelers of the roadway. Importantly, it will help to assure the Mankato region's ability to maintain its methodical economic growth, which has doubled that of the national GDP rate over the past five years. Roads like Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester, which connects nearly 400,000 people across southern Minnesota, is vital to our continued success.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the City of Mankato,

Najwa Massad  
Mayor

cc: City Manager, Patrick Hentges



10 Civic Center Plaza  
Post Office 3368  
Mankato, MN 56002-3368

Phone: (507) 387-8600  
Fax: (507) 388-7530  
[www.mankatomn.gov](http://www.mankatomn.gov)



July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Hentges". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "P" that loops around the first part of the name.

Patrick Hentges  
City Manager  
City of Mankato



June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

This letter is sent to express the Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization's (MAPO) firm support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

As one of eight federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in Minnesota, MAPO recognizes and can speak with authority toward the substantial need for this project. Highway 14 travels through the heart of the MAPO's metropolitan core, comprised primarily of the cities of Mankato and North Mankato. Highway 14 is a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35, and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations beyond Minnesota. In recognition of this impact, MAPO has designated uniform four-lane expansion of Highway 14 as Regionally Significant in our adopted Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range up to 17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. Concurrent with this traffic growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying size, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will aid economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Paul Vogel  
Executive Director, Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization (MAPO)  
10 Civic Center Plaza  
Mankato, MN 56001





## Courtland Volunteer Fire Department

P.O. Box 41, Courtland, MN 56021

507-359-2813

Dave Ubel  
Chief  
276-8413

Corey Hulke  
Asst. Chief  
359-1050

Chris Dauer  
President  
276-6378

Jon Rewitzer  
Treasurer  
276-0999

Dan Davis  
Secretary  
354-8019

*Courtland Fire Department*

*July 8, 2019*

*The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590*

*Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application*

*Dear Secretary Chao:*

*I would first like to thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns with the current Highway 14. I also appreciate the consideration of Minnesota Department of Transportation's application for grant funds to improve Highway 14 from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.*

*As a member of the Courtland Fire Department for 19 years and currently the Chief for the past nine years, I have witnessed numerous accidents and deaths that could have been avoided by having a divided roadway. Two fatalities remain vivid in my mind. One was a motorcycle versus a pickup in which the motorcyclist was killed. The last one was a year ago and occurred when a pickup and trailer crossed the center line colliding head on with a work van, killing one of the occupants. I was the first responder on the scene and I knew the patient. The first thought was he was only unconscious, I kept checking for a pulse, all to no avail and he wasn't breathing. His legs and body were pinned in the driver's seat. We rapidly began extricating him from the passenger side of the van because of the severe damage on the driver's side. At that point I realized we were not going to be able to revive or save him. He left behind a loving wife and three young children. Had there been a center median, I believe the head on collision could have been avoided.*

*I would also like to briefly mention the need for a bypass around the City of Courtland. Working for the Public Works Department in town, I see the frustration with myself and residents in trying to cross or merge onto Highway 14. Often time traffic is vehicle to vehicle from one end of town to the other, as car and truck traffic has tremendously increased after the segment from Nicollet to Mankato was completed several years ago. Residents trying to cross or merge onto the highway become frustrated from waiting long periods of time, and often dart across or dangerously merge with traffic. At the intersection of County Road 24 and Highway 14, traffic often backs up so far that residents begin taking side streets east or west to gain access at other intersections. Our fire station is located on County Road 24 and often times when responding to emergency calls, we cut down side streets because there is no room for our emergency vehicles to maneuver through the backed up traffic. With the emergency vehicles and many*

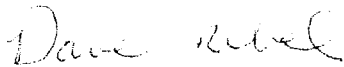
*residents using the side streets, these narrow streets have become very dangerous to pedestrians and has slowed our response times to critical incidents.*

*Furthermore, the increased speeds and increased traffic in town have put homeowners, pedestrians, and kids on bicycles in danger. During my lifetime in town, there have been three houses struck by cars that have veered off the road. In fact this past winter a car veered off Highway 14 and struck a parked semi. Had that semi not been parked there the car would have ended up in the nearby homeowner's living room. Many of the boulevards are very narrow with minimum street parking, some of the houses only five or six feet off the highway. Having a bypass around town could once again make our Main Street safe for kids on bicycles and pedestrians to use the sidewalks.*

*Finally, having a bypass and safe interchange in town would provide farmers and the heavy truck traffic easier and safer access into and out of town. We have a feed mill, grain elevator, several Ag businesses, two large industries and two trucking firms that place heavy truck traffic on the road daily. Current accesses are not wide enough for the semi to turn without driving over the curbs or sidewalks. Many farmers haul their grain to town with gravity boxes and trailers. Their speed is considerably slower than normal traffic creating a danger for both the farmer and the motorist.*

*Thank you once again for the consideration of the BUILD grant foundation project. Having this section of road completed will benefit our community economically and provide safe, reliable transportation routes to all residents in town and southern Minnesota.*

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Ubel".

*Dave Ubel, Fire Chief  
City of Courtland*





June 26, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School (MVL) in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Having traveled Highway 14 in Minnesota between New Ulm and Rochester many times, I can state with a reasonable degree of certainty that MVL is the only school that is currently located on highway 14. Highway 14 is very important to our school. Each day we have four buses bring in approximately 125 of our 215 students from a radius of 45 – 50 miles from MVL. Each of those buses spends at least part of their route on Highway 14. The remaining students drive themselves or are transported by their parents. Yet, those buses and students aren't the only ones who are on Highway 14. Each week during the school year, we have parents and family members who make several trips each week to our school on Highway 14 to come for athletic events, concerts, fund raisers and other gatherings.

I can confidently speak for everyone at MVL when I say that the safety of our students is of paramount importance. In the past several years, I was privileged to serve on the Highway 14 Task Force that studied potential routes and received feedback from the public on the need for this expansion. In fact, many of those individuals who served on the recent Highway 14 Task Force shared their concern for the safety of our MVL students and families as we discussed the importance of getting this project completed.

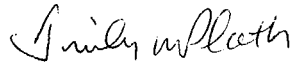
The transition from the current two lane structure to four lanes from Nicollet to New Ulm and the addition of the new access points laid out by the representatives from MNDOT will provide a safer travel environment than the current configuration that already exists. We are very thankful for the planning that the MNDOT representatives have done.

I urge you to do everything in your power to make Highway 14 four lanes between Nicollet and New Ulm and get it completed as soon as possible. The safety of our students and families can't be understated.



If I can be of further service to you or you have any questions about this letter, feel free to contact me at the address listed or at [tplath@mvlhs.org](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy M. Plath". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Timothy" and last name "Plath" being more prominent.

Dr. Timothy M. Plath  
MVLHS Principal



July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing on behalf of the New Ulm Area Chamber of Commerce and its members in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Many of the jobs in the New Ulm area are connected to the manufacturing industry which depends on a safe, cost effective and efficient transportation system for the moving of employees and product. For the nearly 400,000 people living and working along the HWY 14 corridor, a completed four-lane highway connects the regional centers of New Ulm, Mankato, Owatonna and Rochester and provides the necessary and basic infrastructure for further development.

In New Ulm, we have watched and waited as portions of the project moved forward. However, the two-lane remaining segments are still dangerous and their current condition inhibits economic growth and investment. Completing the HWY 14 expansion would connect us to State Highway 169, State Highway 60 and Interstate 35 and other distribution points in Mankato and Owatonna. Along the corridor and the surrounding region – business and community leaders in Southern Minnesota have waited for the expansion and completion of Hwy 14 for many years.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenny Eckstein".

Jenny Eckstein  
Interim CEO

Jenni Neubauer, Board Chair	Ann Wendinger, Sewing Seeds Quilt Co
Brian Shropshire, Board Vice-Chair	Heather Braimbridge-Cox, Windings
Jeff Amundson, Bank Midwest	Eric Bode, BoCo Realty
Mike Wise, Thriveon	Erin Lafferty, Best Western Plus
Shari Fisher, Fisher Law	Rick Kamm, B & L Bar
Jeff Bertrang, ISD 88	Andy Lilleodden, Taco John's
Heather Hammer, A to Zinnia Floral & Gift	Les Schultz, Vice President - New Ulm City Council



June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of Greater Mankato Growth, Inc., the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development, Visitor & Agribusiness Organization serving the Greater Mankato, Minnesota area, I write in strong support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program. Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway.

Highway 14 is a critical east-west corridor serving southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Nearly 400,000 people live along Highway 14 between Rochester and New Ulm. This is the most populous stretch of highway in Greater Minnesota not served by a continuous four-lane highway. For those nearly 400,000 people, Highway 14 serves as a critical corridor of commerce that residents and businesses alike rely on for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Greater Mankato has been a significant contributor to this growth. I want to highlight for you just a few examples that are emblematic of the growing vitality of Greater Mankato:





*Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. includes four business units –  
Greater Mankato Growth, Visit Mankato, City Center Partnership and GreenSeam*

- The Greater Mankato Region received its designation as a Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2008 and currently has a population of 104,000 – up 21% since 2000.
- Of the 32 metropolitan areas in the upper Midwest, Greater Mankato has the 3rd highest growth in our Gross Domestic Product – and the 4th fastest growing personal income.
- Last year, Greater Mankato beat the state average in job growth.
- In the last three years, half a billion dollars was invested in capital projects in our metro.

From a transportation perspective, Greater Mankato continue to be a hub for travelers to our community for:

- Medical care at our hospital and clinic systems – including Mayo Clinic's Regional Headquarters.
- Education at our five colleges and universities that serve 26,000 students – including the second largest university in Minnesota.
- Retail – where we are a Level 1 Regional Trade Center with retail spending per capita double all other Minnesota metros – suggesting that large volumes of folks travel to Greater Mankato to do their shopping.
- Employment - with our daytime population increasing by 61% each day.
- And transportation logistics with Mankato processing more soybeans than anywhere in North America and serving as a distribution hub for several trucking firms – including a Walmart distribution center.

The key thread in all of this is that the need for our community to efficiently and safely move goods and individuals out of, and into, our market and across our entire region has never been more important. The regional centers of New Ulm, Greater Mankato, Waseca, Owatonna and Rochester are economic powerhouses that represent some of the fastest growing economies in the state. By awarding Highway 14 with a BUILD Grant, you can place the final piece of the puzzle that will complete Highway 14, thus providing a safe and efficient transportation infrastructure that supports this region's businesses and commuters and allows southern Minnesota to reach its full potential.

I want to thank you for your leadership and for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Patrick Baker  
Vice President & Director of Government and Institutional Affairs



Office of  
MARSHALL AREA TRANSPORTATION GROUP  
E-mail: SturrockDE@gmail.com

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Marshall Area Transportation Group enthusiastically endorses the application of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for a BUILD grant for the proposed expansion of U.S. Highway 14 between Nicollet and New Ulm.

This request for \$25 million in federal support will leverage the funding now being developed by MnDOT and the affected county and city governments. MnDOT District 7 continues its aggressive design and environmental work so that this project can directly advance to construction upon receipt of designated funding.

The current two-lane segment, first engineered in the 1930s, contains numerous curves, limited sight lines and narrow shoulders. These features impede both freight movement and economic development initiatives, and pose many local and regional safety, access, and mobility problems. Given the steady long-term growth in commuter, freight and agricultural traffic in the New Ulm-Mankato corridor, it is no surprise that MnDOT rates this twelve-mile passage of U.S. 14 as one the half-dozen most dangerous roads in the state.

Also, this is the most populous stretch of road in Greater Minnesota not served by a continuous four-lane highway, and its percentage of heavy commercial traffic is about double of the average for state highways across Minnesota.

The Nicollet-New Ulm project would establish a continuous four-lane divided highway that, in combination with the portion of Interstate 90 east of Rochester, will connect 225 miles of southeast, south central and southwest Minnesota from the Mississippi River to New Ulm. It would complete

a critical link for agricultural and industrial producers across an area of 400,000 people, and for shippers and customers in neighboring states.

These benefits would also be felt in communities far from the immediate project area. Our city of Marshall is a national center for value-added food and alternative energy processing, and a hub for supply chain, logistics and network distribution for the Upper Midwest. Although we are located 70 miles west of New Ulm, our shippers rely upon U.S. 14 as their primary link to Interstate 35 and its connections to points south and east.

If approved, this grant will serve the stated priorities of the BUILD program by emphasizing highway safety, modern standards of infrastructure quality and reliability, economic competitiveness, multi-agency partnerships, and innovative financing.

The BUILD grant application to expand U.S. Highway 14 is strongly endorsed by the Marshall Area Transportation Group, and its advocacy partners Lyon County, the City of Marshall, and the Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

David E. Sturrock, Chairman  
Marshall Area Transportation Group



July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Meier", is written over the typed name.

Brad Meier  
President  
Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

# OFFICE OF SHERIFF

## NICOLLET COUNTY

**Dave Lange**  
*Sheriff*

501 South Minnesota Ave.  
P.O. Box 117  
St. Peter, MN 56082  
(507) 931-1570  
Admin. Fax: (507) 931-1577  
Jail Fax: (507) 931-4466  
Dispatch Fax: (507) 934-7169  
[www.co.nicollet.mn.us](http://www.co.nicollet.mn.us)

**Karl Jensen**  
*Chief Deputy*

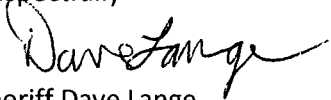
July 1, 2019

US Secretary of Transportation  
Elaine L. Chao

RE: Highway 14 four lane expansion.

By way of introduction I am the Sheriff of Nicollet County and have been working in the public safety field for 34 years, the last 17 as Sheriff. I am writing this letter for support of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion from Nicollet to New Ulm. This stretch of road is in my county and I have personally responded to many serious and fatal accidents on that stretch of highway. I have seen what converting a 2 lane road to 4 lanes does for safety of the motoring public and I feel that funding this stretch of road would save many lives in the future. It could also prevent law enforcement, EMS, Fire and many families with having to deal with a tragic crash in the future on that stretch of highway. If there is anything more I can do to encourage this project to move forward please contact me.

Respectfully

  
Sheriff Dave Lange

Greg Krueger, Chairman  
Steele County Minnesota Board of Commissioners  
1270 Liberty Dr  
Owatonna MN 55060

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support - U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

Support for the final phase expansion of US HWY 14 project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for grant funds from the US Department of Transportation's BUILD program is not only an economic obligation, but also a moral obligation.

Hwy 14 is the major east-west corridor through southern Minnesota. It carries the majority of the trucking transport lines that connect to all the north-south arteries including Hwy 60, Interstate 35, Hwy 169 and Hwy 52. All southern Minnesota commerce relies on Hwy 14 as well as farmers, medical services, and manufacturing not only for moving products, but it is a major source of transportation for moving people for employment. Again, commerce and safety.

The added traffic over the past several years is tremendous. It has increased by up to 17% of all traffic. The rest of the state's truck traffic average is 8%. While heavy commercial traffic has increased, so has the number of crashes and deaths. Many Minnesotans refer to the two lane stretches of Hwy 14 as the deadliest stretches of road in Minnesota. As stated before, commerce and safety.

Southern Minnesota has been committed to a complete Hwy 14 four-lane. Since the 1960's we have had many accomplishments and far too many setbacks but we still remain committed. With only 12 miles remaining unfunded, the finish line is in sight! All 110 miles will be four-lane creating that vital highway servicing all of southern Minnesota, as well as moving commerce from Minnesota manufacturing to Wisconsin, South Dakota, Iowa and beyond. It will truly be the engine that makes Southern Minnesota the driving force of commerce.

The BUILD PROGRAM was devised to make transportation more reliable and safer. When Hwy 14 is approved for this funding, as stated earlier, it will create that safe transportation pathway that will transform Southern Minnesota from just a player in commerce, agriculture and medical services to a leader. This is not an effort by just one entity. Every community, business



and agricultural group in Southern Minnesota has made the finish of Hwy 14 their number one priority.

I truly appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinions on this project. I am very supportive of an administration that understands the need for infrastructure upgrades in rural areas of our country and look forward to a positive response to our application. It would be great to have the United States Secretary of Transportation cut the ribbon to this final phase of Highway 14.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Krueger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Greg Krueger, Chairman  
Steele County Board of Commissioners

Rick A Gnemi, Steele County Commissioner  
District #3  
404 S. Cedar Avenue  
Owatonna, MN 55060

June 27, 2019

To: The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Rick A Gnemi, Steele County Commissioner  
District #3  
404 S. Cedar Ave.  
Owatonna, MN 55060

Tel 507-451-3813/email: [dgrg@gnemiappraisal.com](mailto:dgrg@gnemiappraisal.com); [rgnemi@co.steele.mn.us](mailto:rgnemi@co.steele.mn.us)

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** auntbeanner@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 2:07 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT); Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Cc:** Shane A. Zahrt  
**Subject:** US Highway 14 Expansion Project

Jean Embacher  
202 Main Street E Apt #6  
PO Box 312  
Vernon Center, Mn 56090

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support-US Highway 14 For-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels East and West and is a primary Highway traveled in Southern Minnesota. When the Highway 14 was constructed years ago it was a road that worked to fit the needs of the people and traffic. Over the course of times the Highway has needed and has had some updates and reconstruction done to meet those need as well as to improve the safety of and for the people traveling on Highway 14.

Let me back track to April 16, 1988 for a brief summary of how the old Highway 14 has impacted my life and why I am writing and asking for the support for the Highway 14 project that needs to have grant funds to accomplish the project from Nicollet, Mn to New Ulm, Mn.

I was driving a Pontiac Sunbird and it was about 5-5:30 pm. I was driving on Highway 14 West, which at the time was a two lane Highway that went right through the town of Nicollet, Mn. I was going to turn left the Gas Station in Nicollet which was located just past Hewitt Roll A Dock. There was a semi coming through Nicollet from the east and I had turned in front of the semi. It was believed that possibly the sun reflected off the trailer. The semi in trying to avoid colliding with me took for the whole passenger side, roof and back of the car, the semi rolled in front of Hewitt Roll A Dock.

I was stopped breathing 3-4 times at the scene of the accident as the ambulance people were trying to immobilize and keep me breathing. It was then that the Volunteer Firefighters for Nicollet took over the life saving efforts and were able to get me breathing again. I was transported to Mankato Immanuel St. Joseph's hospital by ambulance and then I was air lifted by Mayo Life Flight to St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Mn. I wasn't expected to live. I had my last rights given to me prior to leaving Mankato for Rochester. I wasn't expected to live. I was in coma for 10-12 days and had



total right-side paralysis for about 4-5 weeks. I was in the St. Mary's Hospital for about 2 months going through lots of different therapies. I regained full use of the right-side of my body while I was in the Hospital. After I left the Hospital, I was in an Outpatient Brain Injury Program at St. Mary's Hospital for 5 months.

I am a survivor of the horrific accident and am grateful for that. I live each day with a Severe Traumatic Brain Injury, severe depression, chronic anxiety, and PTSD. As I am aging I know for a fact that my memory is getting to be more hit and miss or selective. I don't know what am I going to remember and what I am not. I am on Disability as the on going issues and complications that are in result of the TBI. I have severe depression, chronic anxiety, PTSD which are affected and worsened by the TBI. I don't always know when I am going to get emotionally upset, I am not able to be in large group settings such as family reunions or with a group of friends. I am easily annoyed by noise(s), volume. decision making, going to new places, focusing on one conversation at a time, staying at task, remembering details to tasks, follow oral directions, just to name a few of the effects of the TBI.

Since then the Highway 14 Project has been completed from West of North Mankato, Mn to and around Nicollet, Mn. Highway 14 on that stretch has been converted to a divided four lane Highway from what was a two lane Highway and is rerouted around Nicollet vs through the town. It was done to better meet the needs of businesses, residents, farmers, commuters. I ask that the Project be granted the funding so that the project may be finished from Nicollet, Mn to New Ulm, Mn. I was lucky to survive my accident and have to believe by completing this project that there will be lives saved and save anyone in the future to have to live with life long results from a horrific accident. There is a lot of traffic that travels that stretch of road, there are a lot of commuters that rely on the safety of the roads to get to and from school, their jobs, their farms, and even traveling.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion application for BUILD grant funding. Please make this happen.

Sincerely,

Jean Embacher

Survivor of Highway 14 accident April 16, 1988

**From:** [Glen Setterholm](#)  
**To:** [Degenstein, Doris \(DOT\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Highway 14 Funding  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 10, 2019 9:32:06 PM

---

**From:** [Glen Setterholm](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2019 11:59 AM  
**To:** [dorisdegenstein@state.mn.us](mailto:dorisdegenstein@state.mn.us)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Funding

Hello Doris, I hope this letter is not too late for help in getting funding for the highway 14 four lane project between Nicollet and New Ulm.

I lost my son-in-law on April 4, 2018 between Courtland and Nicollet due to a traffic accident. I knew that road was a dangerous section due to all the traffic and previous deaths on it but it really hit home when my daughters husband left her and 3 children on this stretch of road while he was heading to work.

We use this road all the time and so do a lot of other people and businesses (trucks) and see the need for improved safety.

We would appreciate this road be given the necessary support to move it up the ladder in priority towards improving the safety of it for all drivers and passengers on it.

Thanks you for listening.

Regards,

Glen Setterholm  
Resident of New Ulm, MN

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Phillip Scriver  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School  
45638 561<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

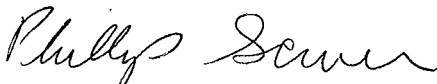
Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Phillip Scriver  
Director of Mission Advancement  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Marty Holub <martyholub@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 11:18 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** MN Highway 14 corridor is crucial for the economy and safety of the region.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Marty Holub  
Residence  
421 N 2nd St  
La Crescent MN 55947  
Knight Barry Title Group  
WI, MN, MI, FL

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

As a college student I traveled Highway 14 hundreds of times to Martin Luther College. I've seen the dangers of Highway 14 across Southern Minnesota, especially in the winter, many times. With all of the drifting snow and icy roads that become hard to keep up with the two lane traffic puts drivers at the mercy of oncoming traffic and their own ability to navigate a very treacherous highly traveled road. There is a lot of agricultural and semi traffic that adds to the challenges. This road is crucial to the safety and economy of Southern Minnesota.

Expanding Highway 14 in Southern would make a big difference in the region and put Brown County especially and surrounding counties on the MN economic map and ultimately the region, country, and world. 3M products, dairy, Kraft... This will increase ability to get goods from hard working Americans to those who need their products. Keep in mind safety alone would be enough of a reason to expand this section of Highway 14.

The company I work for, Knight Barry Title has 6 MN offices and we are looking to grow in MN. We are in Winona, Lake City, Red Wing, Faribault, Northfield, and Rochester - a city on Highway 14 that would benefit from "stretching" further into MN. I can see the Highway 14 corridor as a big opportunity for our company to

expand. Creating access via Highway 14 for communities along this stretch to better connect with major highway arteries will be good for business, jobs, and ultimately incentive and economic security for businesses to grow and people to live, work, and play in this region.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

This is hard to explain in one email. Please call me at your convenience and I'd be happy to discuss this topic more.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding. This project is crucial to the economic stability, transportation, and safety of Southern Minnesota and the greater region.

Sincerely,

Marty Holub

La Crescent, MN Resident

Account Executive  
Knight Barry Title  
(La Crosse, WI)  
MN Branches as noted above.

Marty Holub  
847-650-3123

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Jim and Cindy Dretske <dretskej@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 12:42 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT); Jim and Cindy Dretske  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 four-lane expansion from Nicollet, MN to New Ulm, MN

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao.

I am Cindy Dretske and I writing to you in regards to the Hwy 14 4 lane expansion from Nicollet, MN to New Ulm, MN. I live in New Ulm and our family uses this stretch of highway very often. It is not safe the way it is now. It has a lot of traffic on it. A majority of that traffic are semis which are crucial to our economy in New Ulm. We have a couple major trucking firms headquartered in New Ulm JR Schugel and DA Dittrich. Thankfully they have not moved out of New Ulm and hoping they never will, but the 2 lane highway is a hinderance. I have 2 nephews that drive truck for them and their safety is very important to me.

We also have some major plants like 3M, Kraft, Firminech, AMPI that trucking is important and the 4 lane highway would help secure their stay in New Ulm.

New Ulm has 3 highschoools and a college. The college has an enrollment from around the US and hopefully we can have safe roads for them to travel to and from college.

Please help us get the funding for this stretch of the highway. it will help with safety as well as helping our city grow and stay connected to other major centers.

Thank you for allowing me to write this letter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Dretske

215 S Payne

New Ulm, MN 56073

dretskej@hotmail.com

507-359-3348



## **Degenstein, Doris (DOT)**

---

**From:** James Dretske <jdretske@splnewulm.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 1:31 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Cc:** D-Jim Dretske  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Build a Highway

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Dear US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao,**

**I am writing in favor of building the projected four-lane highway continuing from the current 4-lane expansion made to the west side of Nicollet in southern MN to New Ulm.**

**There is a lot of Truck traffic as New Ulm has the most Trucking Industries per capita in the US.**

**Trucking is a valuable industry and New Ulm is blessed to have so many thriving trucking industries as well as a number of other industries including 3M, Kraft, AMPI, and Windings and many others. Unfortunately the number of semi trailers induced by these industries makes it quite dangerous to drive on a two-lane highway.**

**I know there are many other areas that are dangerous and in need for four-lane traffic, but I don't think it should be solely based on the number of accidents, as I have heard mentioned, as I feel that drivers in this area are aware of the truck traffic and have been as safe as possible driving around trucks who kick up stones and damage vehicles and windows.**

**Please consider promoting the Hwy 14 corridor for 4-lane expansion. I have patiently waited 45 years since I first moved to New Ulm to see the improvements in the route here. There has been quite an increase in traffic along this route as well, so many people would benefit from this project.**

**Thanks for your consideration**

**James L. Dretske**

**"Filled with Joy"**

2018-19. SPLS Theme  
Psalm 126:3

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

I write as a concerned mother. My husband and I have been blessed to be able to send our five lovely children to Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School, which is located right on Highway 14 between New Ulm and Courtland. Our kids have been involved in many extracurricular activities, sometimes requiring multiple trips to and from MVL each day. Additionally, many students in the MVL "family" hail from Mankato as well as New Ulm, adding teenage drivers traveling this corridor at least twice daily during the school year. On weekends and during breaks, my kids travel to Mankato often to see their friends in Mankato, too.

Secondly, I write as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.

Finally, I write as a consumer and member of the New Ulm community. As brick and mortar retail stores leave our community (Herbergers, Target, Retzlaff's Ace Hardware, Jacobs & Meidl Christian Supply Store, etc.), our family does increasingly more business in Mankato as we prefer to spend our money locally to online shopping. Of course, this increases our travel on Highway 14.

Please help us keep our young drivers and our families safe on Highway 14! Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wessel  
214 S. Franklin Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

Administrative Assistant to the MLC Library Director

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Kathy <kathyvanroekel@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 06, 2019 9:34 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Support

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I would like to encourage your application for the federal BUILD grant for Highway 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet.

Our primary concern is safety. There have been numerous accidents, including fatal ones of people I have known, that would be reduced by having a four-lane highway. With all of the trucking firms in New Ulm, it can be a dangerous situation as people attempt to pass or with all of the distracted driving. We live off the intersection of Highways 14 and 15 and are so thankful for the construction happening at that intersection. We were fearful when our kids began driving and know the extreme precaution necessary when entering that intersection, even if others don't. We are confident a four-lane highway will provide the same piece of mind the new intersection will provide.

Our other belief is that this highway will enhance economic growth necessary not only to maintain, but increase the opportunities in New Ulm. As a past Chair of the Chamber of Commerce, I have heard from our businesses the importance of a safe and effective transportation system into our city.

This is a great opportunity to receive the funds that have been requested and denied for decades. Thank you for your consideration in applying for the BUILD grant.

Sincerely,

Kathy and Rick Van Roekel

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Laurel Enstad  
811 N State Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 6, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Over the years I have used Highway 14 between New Ulm, MN and Mankato, MN many, many times. As the volume of overall traffic and the number of semi-truck traffic has increased, I feel that the above mentioned project is much needed for the safety of those of us who often travel through this corridor. When traveling east from New Ulm, I always feel a sense of relief once I reach the four-lane stretch of Highway 14. I have heard that the two-lane segment between New Ulm and Nicollet is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

From New Ulm, it is the main east/west route connecting to other major highways such as MN Highway 169, MN Highway 52, Interstate 35 and Interstate 90/94. I use this corridor often to travel to the Twin Cities and to the Milwaukee area. I understand that the BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. From my experience, I certainly feel that this project would accomplish the goals of the BUILD program.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Laurel Enstad

Lee Rodewald  
317 N. Payne St  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao

Subject: Letter of Support - US Highway 14 Four-Lane  
Expansion Project, (BUILD)

Dear Secretary Chao:

This letter is being sent in support of MnDOT  
for grant funds from the BUILD program.

Highway 14 is a major east - west route  
in Minnesota. As of this writing only 12 miles  
remain unfunded from New Ulm to Rochester.  
Those miles are New Ulm to Nicolette.

Along that stretch is a private high school and  
many residences. Work is being wrapped  
up at the main junction of Hwy 14 + 15.  
This will speed up travel and even more  
the need for road improvements.

Safety is a main topic for this section and  
the most important. There have been some  
major accidents along here. With the ideas  
in the proposed plan would make safety more  
achievable.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lee Rodewald

**Degenstein, Doris (DOT)**

---

**From:** Lisa Windschitl <sawindschitl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 12:24 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** To the Honorable Elaine Chao

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please help us with your support on the Hwy 14 Nicollet to New Ulm four lane expansion.

Having read the criteria for the federal grant it looks like the Hwy 14 project meets all these requirements. Please help to finish the 12 miles of the 110 mile highway before it claims yet another life.

Very Respectfully,  
Scott Windschitl - District 3 Brown County Commissioner

1018 S. Payne St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
3 July 2019

The Hon. Elaine L. Chao  
US Secretary of Transportation

MnDOT District 7  
Attn: Doris Degenstein  
2151 Bassett Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing in support of the BUILD grant to be designated for the completion of the long-sought 4-lane extension of U.S. Highway 14 between Nicollet and New Ulm, Minnesota.

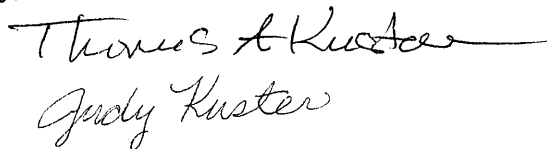
Our own experience with the dangers of the current two-lane Highway 14 came a few years ago, when on our way home traveling west on Highway 14 just east of Courtland, Minnesota, a car coming from the other direction skidded on ice and veered into our lane in front of us. The resulting crash fortunately resulted in no physical injuries, although it totaled our car.

This would not have happened if Highway 14 had been a four-lane highway, as has been sought by local residents for more than three decades.

Sadly, many other accidents on this stretch of highway have been much more serious than ours, and many times fatal, as I am sure has been documented for you by others.

Please offer your support for what we are being told is our last chance in the foreseeable future to fix this very dangerous stretch of U.S. highway.

Sincerely,

The block contains two handwritten signatures. The top signature is 'Thomas A. Kuster' in a cursive script. The bottom signature is 'Judy Kuster' in a similar cursive script.

Tom & Judy Kuster



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Bruns, Jill M <Jill.Bruns@allina.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 11:11 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 support letter for Elaine L. Chao

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao,

I am writing to you in regard to the BUILD grant application for the Highway 14 project from New Ulm to Nicollet. I realize that the deadline for the letters of support was yesterday and I'm sorry for sending this late, but there are a few points I would like to make in regard to the project.

I live and work in New Ulm, but I make frequent trips on this stretch of road several times per week. One main area of concern for me is turning off of Highway 14 into the ShadyBrook acres subdivision where my In-laws live. There have been several instances where I was trying to make a left hand turn across traffic to enter the area and have almost been rear ended in the process. I have to turn my blinker on about a half a mile before the turn and also tap my breaks to get the attention of the cars following me as there is not a turn lane for that area. There is so much traffic heading into New Ulm that the wait at certain times of the day is horrendous. I have also had to hit the gas and skip the turn as I am afraid that the cars behind me aren't moving over, forcing me to go up the road and turn at the Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School entrance and turn around. Which brings me to my second point.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is currently right off of Highway 14. Not only do those students and faculty have to try to gain access to and from the school with all the traffic, but they also have ball fields right next to the highway.

Courtland is my next issue. Traffic does not slow down when going through town. I have friends that live in Courtland and are afraid to go for walks as the traffic is so bad. I will not take the "Courtland Cutoff" road anymore from Highway 68 as the wait to get onto Highway 14 is unbearable. Making a left hand turn from any of the side streets in Courtland is almost impossible, not only due to the traffic volume but also due to the speeds that some folks are driving. Traffic in volumes such as these should not be going through small towns.

Please help us with the funding for this project. Too many lives are at stake, not only the lives of the drivers on the road, but also the lives of the families, children, that live and work in the areas closest to this road.

Thank you for taking the time to listen.

Sincerely,  
Jill Bruns

*Jill Bruns*

CPhT • Hospital Pharmacy • New Ulm Medical Center, part of Allina Health  
Phone: 507-217-5997 • Fax: 507-217-5087 • [jill.bruns@allina.com](mailto:jill.bruns@allina.com)  
Mail Route 59000 • 1324 5<sup>th</sup> North Street • New Ulm, MN 56073

*"Being negative only makes a journey more difficult. You may be given a cactus, but you don't have to sit on it." – Joyce Meyer*



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## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Laura Grossmann <laura.grossmann@alphamediausa.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 11:22 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Expansion

Hi Doris,

I apologize for missing the deadline; I've had a rather hectic summer, but wanted to get my comments regarding Highway 14 to you regardless.

I am a resident of Courtland and live on Fiemeyer Drive on the east end of town, directly off of Highway 14.

I'm disturbed by the amount of traffic that travels through our little town on a daily basis. People who aren't from the area are truly astounded by the volume. I had some contractors working at my house about a year ago. They commented in disbelief at the frequency that semis drove by my home and down the "little main street" of Courtland.

Safety is a factor. Noise is a factor. Extreme use is a factor.

Safety first: The number of people on their cell phones when they drive into town is appalling. Slowing down as they enter the city seems to be their ideal time to check messages, change music, etc. We have at least a half-dozen children on our street. I worry with the volume of traffic with drivers not engaged in the act of driving in such a tight area will put one of them at risk.

Furthermore, drivers often pass other vehicles in city limits. I frequently see a car hurry to pass another just before they hit the 55 mph speed limit sign outside of Courtland. A very frightening thing to witness on such a frequent basis; I believe it is bound to end up in disaster sooner than later.

Even more frightening is watching impatient drivers pass in the MIDDLE OF COURTLAND in the 35 mph zone. Because we have two children's play parks and a ballpark, we frequently have kids and families afoot and on their bikes traveling to play, or going to the Courtland Mart or Swanzy's for food. I am literally terrified for everyone I see attempting to cross the highway. All it takes is one fool to pass on faith for tragedy to strike our community.

My daughter and I bike to all her softball games, and like to get out in the evenings for walks. There are times we are unable to cross the highway for a full 5 minutes because of the steady stream of vehicles traveling through town. She is landlocked by the highway; unable to go anywhere on the south side of the road. I cringe as she approaches each intersection, even when I am near. It's literally a nerve-wracking endeavor to go out on a bike ride with my child.

Noise: The trucks, the trucks, the trucks. I have NOTHING against semi drivers. It was the way my father earned a living for our family for 40 years. But the trucks jake breaking into town causes sleepless nights and continuous disturbances. We are really not able to use our front yard unless we want to shout at each other. It is not only the trucks, either. Again, the steady and constant stream of traffic makes living in our little rural town more like tolerating a city interstate.

We have a regular stock of fresh roadkill in front of our home, a filthy exterior from the exhaust of the many vehicles passing by, and impressive strings of potholes that jolt the trucks and deliver a tremor to our house.

It is far past time to route this monster highway out of our little town. It outgrew Courtland a long, long time ago.

Thank you,

Laura Grossmann  
8 Fiemeyer Drive  
Courtland, MN 56021





THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI SYNOD

# *Immanuel Lutheran Church*

*50490 478th St  
Courtland, Minnesota 56021*

Parsonage  
359-2528  
Church  
359-2505

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
Teacherage - 359-4575  
School - 359-2534

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Elaine L. Chao,

I write on behalf of the 488 members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and 63 students of Immanuel Lutheran School of rural Courtland, located a half mile south of Highway 14 between Nicollet and Courtland, MN.

We certainly anticipate and appreciate the completion of busy Highway 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm as a four lane highway in the near future.

We know that this will make for a much safer environment for the members and friends of our church and school.

It would also speed the traffic in this area, which can get quite congested at times.

Please use your influence to bring about the completion of this good and necessary Highway 14 project.

We thank you for your consideration as we remember it and you in our prayers.

Sincerely,

*Rev. Wayne A. Bernau*

Pastor Wayne A. Bernau

*"We have one who speaks to the Father in our defense - Jesus Christ, the righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." 1 John 2:1b,2.*

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Myron Fluegge <flueggemtj@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 1:59 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Cc:** Myron Fluegge  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Elaine L. Chao,

As US Secretary of Transportation, it is critical that you follow through on the funding of a critical section of Highway 14 in southern MN. I am aware that MnDOT selected the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion from New Ulm to Nicollet as one of three projects to submit for the U.S. Department of Transportation's 2019 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant program.

As a Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) official in five sports, I travel from New Ulm to Mankato on a weekly basis. I also travel from New Ulm to Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School on a weekly basis. I can tell you personally that Hwy 14 is a dangerous highway to travel from New Ulm to Nicollet. Another disaster is waiting to happen if something isn't done soon to widen the highway to four lanes.

Please do all in your power to get this section of highway funded so that construction can begin immediately thereafter.

Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,  
Myron Fluegge  
108 3rd South Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

Pete Markgraf  
820 Summit Ave  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 29, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Mr. Pete Markgraf  
Principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School

Sarah Warmka  
619 Stoneridge Drive  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

I work for the New Ulm Area Chamber of Commerce, and marketing New Ulm as a tourism destination is part of my job. We are a destination city for tourism, with many genuine attractions of regional and even international interest. Our local economy depends on revenue from tourists visiting our hotels, restaurants, shops, and attractions. We are a community of 13,500, and Hwy 14 is a main corridor our tourists have to use to reach us.

I know the New Ulm Area Chamber of Commerce has written a letter also, but I wanted my perspective to be heard as well. I moved to New Ulm almost 5 years ago and one thing that attracted me to the community is the size and the fact that it is only 35 minutes away from Mankato, which is a larger community. However, Hwy 14 between New Ulm and Mankato is dangerous. In 2018 there was a fatality in a Hwy 14 crash that affects all of us. I had only met him one time, but his son was in swimming lessons with mine at the time, and I remember he attended swimming lessons that day. I will never forget him looking up at me and saying "my dad died today." Too young to grasp the gravity of the situation, it rocked us all and we all held our children a little closer.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Sarah Warmka  
Marketing Specialist  
New Ulm Area Chamber of Commerce



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Ruth Johnson <johnsonr@hickorytech.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 07, 2019 1:31 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter to Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

MnDOT District 7  
Attn: Doris Degenstein  
2151 Bassett Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001

Subject: US Highway 14 Upgrades

Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation

Dear Secretary Chao:

US Hwy 14 in Minnesota has long been called "the killer highway."  
Upgrades of US Hwy 14 to four-lane in recent years have vastly improved safety for us, as well as transportation efficiency, but we are not done.

Though we can't do much about the dangerous effects of high winds on snow, ice, hail, and fog on an east-west route, we can make the road safer by making it four-lane from border to border. This effort will also correct areas that take Hwy 14 through small towns, creating serious traffic hazards and also reducing efficiency.

Please support our work by providing sufficient federal dollars to Minnesota dollars to complete this years-long project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Johnson  
Former Minnesota State Representative

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** E Hendrickson <Hendrick1@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019 6:53 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L Chao

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Doris, and Elaine,

Please support and provide funding for the highway 14 four lane extension from Nicollet to New Ulm. I work for a major employer in New Ulm and we have several employees that make this trip every work day and this stretch of road is still a major safety concern for our employees.

I have a young engineer that reported to me that was hit head-on by a work truck on this highway that left him out of work for over 6 months. It took him years for him to partially recover, and still to this day feels the effects of that accident. He's lucky to alive, and to this day still makes the same drive.

Our safety message at work is that we want people to leave work in the same condition they arrived. We hope the same for our employees outside of work.

Current condition of this stretch is really deteriorating quickly with potholes and cracks seemingly unmaintained awaiting a decision on funding to replace.

We need the expansion for local commerce as well. Connecting New Ulm to neighboring Mankato, decreasing time to Minneapolis will not only support growth of our local industries but also help with New Ulm's tourism business.

I am thankful that I don't have to drive this stretch everyday but do share concern for the folks that do. I appreciate the opportunity to share this concern and I am hopeful this letter will help support the funding.

Sincerely,  
Eric Hendrickson  
1733 Oakwood Avenue  
New Ulm, MN 56073

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Sanford, Debora L <debora.sanford@mnsu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2019 11:07 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** hwy 14 project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi,

My name is Debora Sanford . I currently live at 55452 us hwy 14. Courtland mn. I have lived there since 1998. My driveway directly goes on to hwy 14. in September of 2017 I was involved in a head on collision just outside of courtland. A Truck pulling a trailer pulled out to pass a semi and hit me head on. I was told by many I was lucky to survive. I sustained a broken back, a broken sternum and had a questionable EKG. I was transported to new ulm medical center then to Hennepin. I Believe it is imperative to upgrade the hwy. The accident of course have left permanent damage and scarring. My grandson at the time was 2 and I had been his primary care giver. it was very difficult time for my family. My Father took 6 weeks to move in and help care for me while, my family tried to maintain. I missed 12 weeks of work to try to recover. It took a full year to regain my strength. One to many Deaths have occurred on the stretch of hwy between Nicollet and New Ulm. The volume of traffic has seemed to increase tremendously. I think it is long past due to 4 lane that stretch of hwy 14. The plans for expansion may make it more difficult for access to and from my house. It will add time to my commute but it will be well worth the safety of human lives. I work in Mankato and drive that highway daily. I have seen to many near misses to count. Every week I see at least 4 close calls. It's a scary drive then you add the weather into that equation. It will Save lives. Its a must to finally fund it.

Thank you sincerely

Debora Sanford

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Scott Stein <scott.stein114@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2019 11:01 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao,

I grew up right on Highway 14 in Courtland from 1991 to 2003 and in 2003 my parents built a house out on the farm East of Courtland and that driveway is right off Highway 14 also. I now live in Courtland about 1 block south of 14. In the 28 years I have lived on or near Highway 14 I have been hearing about it being turned into a 4 lane and still have yet to see it & I could not even try to count the number of near miss accidents I have seen on this highway or where I or a family member have almost been hit. I have been a member of the Courtland Fire Dept for 5 years. In these 5 years on the department I have already been to numerous accidents on this stretch of highway. While most turned out OK with mostly minor injuries, 1 fatal accident I responded to on this stretch of road will stick with me for the rest of my life. I do believe if the 4 lane from Nicollet to New Ulm was finished, there would be far less accidents that would happen. My hope is that this finally gets done and the days of responding to accidents on this deadly stretch of road will be over with.

Scott Stein  
114 Red Shoe Drive  
Courtland MN 56021  
507-217-1558



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Linda Berkland <lindarandyberk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 9:27 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** US Highway 14 Four Lane Expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

The Honorable Elaine L Char  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC 20590

Dear Secretary Char,

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for grant funds from the US Department of Transportation BUILD program.

I am a retired resident of Mankato, Minnesota, but worked for nearly fifty years with the law firm now known as Blethen/Bergen with office in Mankato and New Ulm. I remain active by serving on numerous not for profit boards. When I was a much younger man, our community recognized the importance of completing an east-west four lane highway from Winona through Rochester, Owatonna, Mankato, and continuing to New Ulm on the west. After many meetings, years of expensive delay, and much frustration, the four lane highway is almost complete except for the 12 most western miles,

The area served by Highway 14 is a critical east west highway serving numerous regional centers, and approximately 400,000 people. The regional centers, and the rich agricultural area in which they are located are vital contributors to the Minnesota economy.

Highway 14 as a two lane highway has been a source of much pain due to its heavy traffic, and frequent accidents. I have personally lost three friends to death on that highway. Upgrading to four lane status has reduced both the numbers of accidents, and also the number of deaths.

Highway 14 has experienced considerable a considerable increase in usage which continues and is projected to continue in the future. Other individuals or agencies such as Greater Mankato Growth can provide much more accurate numbers on usage, and I adopt their numbers as representing accurate usage of Highway 14.

I urge that you make the grant to this project so it can finally be completed.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four lane expansion project for BUILD grant funding.

Randall Berkland  
228 Ridgewood Street  
Mankato, Mn. 56001

Sent from my iPad

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Duane Lambrecht <duanelambrecht@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 10:30 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Nicollet to New Ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

As a person who travels from New Ulm to Nicollet almost daily from April through January to my son's hobby farm located directly west of the current 4 lane merge the volume of traffic has increased tremendously. Attempting to enter the highway from his driveway is always a safety challenge because of the amount of traffic going in both directions. It is time to complete this last section of completing the 4 lane route from New Ulm to Rochester, since this has been discussed as a need not a want for over 50 years.

It is also important to note that New Ulm is the only city over 10,000 population not currently served by a 4 lane highway.

New Ulm has many factories which ship most of their products by truck both in and out; such companies as 3M, Kraft-Heinz, AMPI butter plant, Windings, etc. In addition we have more trucking companies per capita running out of New Ulm than any other town in MN.

We need to modernize our transportation system to better and for the sake of safety serve the citizens of New Ulm and to the west along Hwy 14.

Thanks for consideration,

Duane D. Lambrecht  
1011 Lambrecht Lane  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
Cell: 507-276-1819  
Sent from my iPhone

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Lieser, Andrea <Andrea.Lieser@pubdef.state.mn.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 11:22 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Please Support finishing the Hwy. 14 Project from Nicollet to New Ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao,

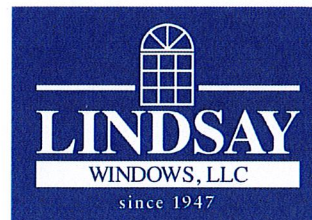
My name is Andrea Lieser. I am a life-long resident of the New Ulm area. I grew up taking Highway 14 to Mankato for "big-city shopping" from our rural Minnesota home in Fairfax. After graduate school, my husband and I moved to New Ulm and have lived here for the past 7 years. I am a full-time attorney in the Public Defenders office located in Mankato. I take Highway 14 to work every day. I am driving the highway twice a day, sometimes more. I am assigned to represent clients in both Mankato and New Ulm. That requires on some days, sometimes 1-2 times a month, that I am driving to Mankato, then to New Ulm for Court hearings, then back to Mankato for hearings before driving home that evening to New Ulm again. The "new" highway system from Mankato to Nicollet is wonderful. It allows drivers to have room, two lanes for appropriate speeds, and has cut down on my commute time. As soon as I get past Nicollet heading west, however, the drive can be treacherous. I still see drivers not making safe decisions trying to pass on the highway. And during planting and harvesting seasons, people try to pass the farm equipment without much room on the shoulders or the road itself. It is just not safe. There is so much semi traffic on highway 14 as well to be aware of and deal with. Four lanes all the way to New Ulm would help alleviate the stress on this roadway and my commute! I want to make it home safe to my three kids and be able to travel quickly and safely to and from hearings for my work. Please support finishing this project to New Ulm.

Thank you,

Andrea J. Lieser  
Assistant Public Defender  
12 Civic Center Plaza  
Suite 2070  
Mankato, MN 56002

Office: (507) 389-5138  
Fax: (507) 389-5139  
Direct: (507) 344-3079

Geoff Roise  
Lindsay Windows LLC  
1995 Commerce Lane  
North Mankato, MN 56003



June 28th, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

Thank you for your service as Secretary of Transportation! You have a tremendous amount of responsibility at a time where there is significant change ranging from infrastructure to Electronic Logs (ELD's) to driverless vehicles and trucks. Your leadership at this time is greatly appreciated.

While small in the grand scheme of things, I am writing in support of a very important project for those of us who travel across Southern Minnesota. Please show your support for funds dedicated to the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). These funds would come from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Our business relies on this portion of Highway 14 to deliver our products to Western Minnesota and Central South Dakota.

Over the last 10 years, we have seen more traffic on this road and a much higher rate of commercial traffic. Data tells us that there has also been an increase in accidents.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Roise", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Geoff Roise  
Co-Owner  
Lindsay Windows LLC

PS....We would love for you to visit any of our facilities!

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Dennis Carlson <dlnjcarlson@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 3:47 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 expansion (BUILD)

Dear Doris,

I am sending you this letter for support of the highway 14 expansion from Nicollet to New Ulm, as part of the application for federal funding (BUILD).

I moved to New Ulm in 1972 and grew up nearby. I will be the age of 74 in July. For almost 47 years we talked about a 4 lane highway between New Ulm and Mankato. This stretch of highway has developed into a very unsafe road. The highway has a huge amount of traffic consisting of cars and allot of trucks moving there product. Trucking is vital for this area to survive. My children and grandchildren live in Mankato area, so many trips to Mankato and for them to come to see me in New Ulm take place. They are involved in many school, church, sports and family activities. We all know the importance of safety when in comes to family matters.

Please consider this project for funding, so this can finally be completed. Thanks!

Sincerely,  
Dennis and Mary Carlson

Sent from my iPhone



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Clyne <jrclyne@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 8:56 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I would like to share my opinion on why the highway should be expanded to a 4-lane road. I worked for 37 years at the 3M Company in New Ulm. In that time, there were numerous times our operations in my department had to be shut down or quickly changed over to a different product that wasn't as high as other products. We would find out that the carrier couldn't get here in time. We ran into that quite often. On the other side of it, some of our finished products didn't get shipped because some carriers didn't travel that highway at certain times. I also think there is a high volume of traffic on that road everyday. That takes a toll on the surface of the road. It becomes filled with many pot holes. A few people over the years have mentioned needing front end alignments from hitting pot holes.

Highway 14 has seen fatalities occur on that road over the years. Last April we lost one of our sons best friends & classmate to a fatal accident. He was 40 years old with a wife and 3 small children. That hit our city very hard. A few years ago, a couple who were out for a Sunday drive were hit head on & killed. The man was an executive at AMPI, a big industry in New Ulm. They left behind 3 kids and grandchildren. Another young man was killed on his motorcycle when a car came over a little hill and struck him head-on.

I drive a school bus for New Ulm Bus Lines and use the highway everyday during the school year. There is always truck traffic on there. Many times people try passing trucks and it makes for a dangerous situation. While driving my bus on one occasion, I had a car pass me on my right side using the shoulder as a lane. That has happened more than once to other bus drivers. People try all kinds of dangerous maneuvers to get by someone on this 2 lane road.

My wife and I are very much in favor of highway 14 becoming a 4-lane road. Please, please, please strongly consider expanding the road. We are 64 years old and lifetime residents of New Ulm.

Thank you,  
Randy Clyne

Sent from my iPhone

Bill Pekar  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**I am writing as a representative of Martin Luther College in New Ulm. Our use of Hwy 14 is unique in that we have thousands of miles logged on this two-lane section every year with college students and their families traveling for education related trips or traveling back and forth over breaks. Often these trips happen in poor driving conditions which are exacerbated by the inherent dangers of this highway.**

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
William Pekar  
Public Relations Director  
Martin Luther College

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Don & Myrtle Brand <dbrand@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 11:08 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** re Hy. 14 expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

There are many reasons to support the improvement of Hy. 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm to four-lane status:

1. This stretch of Hy. 14 has a notorious bad safety record because of all the serious accidents and heavy traffic.
2. The road is in poor condition and MNDOT is patching it often.
3. New Ulm is the largest city in Minnesota without direct connection to a four-lane highway.
4. There are around 1,000 semi trucks operating out of New Ulm...and this not include some big firms that have their own trucks coming to New Ulm, such as Walmart and Menards.
5. New Ulm has some large manufacturing plants that require many semis to service their businesses, such as 3M, Kraft, Firminich, etc. There are many smaller firms that require trucking also.

New Ulm is long overdue to get a four-lane highway access.

Don Brand  
Lifelong resident

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Jon And Rachel <[jonrach@newulmtel.net](mailto:jonrach@newulmtel.net)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 4:32 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Thanks

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

A copy of my letter....FYI. Jon Scharlemann

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Sen. Gary Dahms" <[Sen.Gary.Dahms@senate.mn](mailto:Sen.Gary.Dahms@senate.mn)>  
**Date:** March 13, 2019 at 8:24:27 AM CDT  
**To:** Jon And Rachel <[jonrach@newulmtel.net](mailto:jonrach@newulmtel.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: Thanks

Jon:

Sorry I didn't get back to you sooner. Thank you for your email and your kind words. I certainly appreciate your support.

Gary

-----Original Message-----

From: Jon And Rachel <[jonrach@newulmtel.net](mailto:jonrach@newulmtel.net)>  
Sent: Saturday, February 2, 2019 11:02 AM  
To: Sen. Gary Dahms <[Sen.Gary.Dahms@senate.mn](mailto:Sen.Gary.Dahms@senate.mn)>  
Cc: Mark Zarling <[zarlinmg@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:zarlinmg@mlc-wels.edu)>  
Subject: Thanks

Hello, Gary.....just a quick note to thank you for your support for and sponsor of legislation to fund Highway 14. Rachel and I are natives of New Ulm and have long supported the 4 lane extension to New Ulm. Our primary reason for support is this....Martin Luther College has over 700 students traveling to New Ulm several times a year to receive Pastoral and Teacher training that qualifies them to teach and preach in our churches and schools. Many of these students travel to New Ulm from eastern Mn., Wisconsin and Michigan, all on Highway 14. Your sponsorship and support makes travel for our students safer. Thank you and keep up your good work to support greater Minnesota values. Jon

Sent from my iPad

Linda Kramer  
61472 270<sup>th</sup> St  
Gibbon, MN 55335

July 7, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support—US Highway Four-Lane Expansion Project, BUILD Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the four-lane expansion project for US Highway 14 in Minnesota by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

US Highway 14 is an important corridor for commerce in Minnesota. With several trucking companies in town, as well as it being on an important east-west transportation route, this is a well-used road and important to the local and state economies.

It is also a road that has become dangerous over the years with increases in traffic. Our children attend Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School, which is on Highway 14 west of New Ulm, Minnesota. Turning into or out of the school is difficult at many times during the day, and we are concerned for the safety of these students as well as others traveling this stretch of road.

An expansion of US Highway 14 in this area has been promised for many, many years, and there is broad community support behind the project of completing this project.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane project application for BUILD grant funding for increased safety and economic reasons. It is an important project.

Sincerely,

Linda Kramer



July 1, 2019

I'm aware that MnDOT recently selected the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion as one of three projects to be submitted for federal grant funds. The \$25 million U.S. Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant program would help fund the \$85 million project to expand Highway 14 to four lanes from New Ulm to Nicollet This project needs to be completed both for the safety and economic opportunity of our region.

Far too many people are losing their lives on Highway 14. Haven't we had enough needless deaths on Highway 14?

Two of my neighbors(husband and wife) were killed on Highway 14 between Courtland and Nicollet from a head on crash where someone was passing another vehicle. They left behind 4 children.

I also know someone that was killed 2 years ago on Highway 14 from a head on collision just outside of Courtland where the other driver crossed the center line and he left behind a wife and 3 children.

The safety concerns on Highway 14 are only going to increase with time. Projections show that the region's traffic volumes and population will grow significantly. The more vehicles and drivers that are added, the more dangerous these two-lane stretches become.

Other grant selection criteria includes safety, economic competitiveness, quality of life, state of good repair, innovation, partnerships, public health and safety, regional connectivity, economic growth and energy independence.

Now is the time when important decisions are being made about the future of transportation in Minnesota—Highway 14 must be part of that discussion. I ask that you please direct MnDOT to prioritize the completion of this important interregional corridor in this grant selection. Thank you very much for your leadership and support.

Sincerely,

Mary Schneider

Gene Rodewald  
1442 10<sup>th</sup> Street North  
New Ulm MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

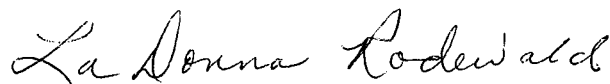
I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

You will have received many letters outlining the need based on connections with other major highways, heavy commercial volumes, agriculture, manufacturing, accessibility to jobs, healthcare and (most of all) safety. You have been alerted to the fact that since the 1960's we have been working to complete (enlarge to four lanes) the remaining 12 miles of Highway 14 connecting the small town of Nicollet and New Ulm which would complete the important 110 mile route from New Ulm to Rochester.

I would like to mention a specific need located on those 12 miles. It is a growing faith-based school known as Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School (MVL). Each school day more than 200 young and inexperienced drivers commute to this school some from as far as 40 miles away...some by busses but most by individual cars. This number is magnified by school activities coupled with parental and guest attendance. Their safety as they enter and exit their school from Highway 14 has always been a major concern. The new four lane road can greatly help that situation. Our oldest granddaughter who just earned her driver's license is one of these students...she has two younger sisters to follow.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding!

Sincerely,  
Gene and LaDonna Rodewald  
Grandparents

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "LaDonna Rodewald". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "LaDonna Rodewald".

I'm aware that MnDOT recently selected the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion as one of three projects to be submitted for federal grant funds. The \$25 million U.S. Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant program would help fund the \$85 million project to expand Highway 14 to four lanes from New Ulm to Nicollet This project needs to be completed both for the safety and economic opportunity of our region.

Far too many people are losing their lives on Highway 14. Haven't we had enough needless deaths on Highway 14?

Two of my neighbors(husband and wife) were killed on Highway 14 between Courtland and Nicollet from a head on crash where someone was passing another vehicle. They left behind 4 children.

I also know someone that was killed 2 years ago on Highway 14 from a head on collision just outside of Courtland where the other driver crossed the center line and he left behind a wife and 3 children.

The safety concerns on Highway 14 are only going to increase with time. Projections show that the region's traffic volumes and population will grow significantly. The more vehicles and drivers that are added, the more dangerous these two-lane stretches become.

Other grant selection criteria includes safety, economic competitiveness, quality of life, state of good repair, innovation, partnerships, public health and safety, regional connectivity, economic growth and energy independence.

Now is the time when important decisions are being made about the future of transportation in Minnesota—Highway 14 must be part of that discussion. I ask that you please direct MnDOT to prioritize the completion of this important interregional corridor in this grant selection. Thank you very much for your leadership and support.

Sincerely,

Mike Schneider

Gene Rodewald  
1442 10<sup>th</sup> Street North  
New Ulm MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

You will have received many letters outlining the need based on connections with other major highways, heavy commercial volumes, agriculture, manufacturing, accessibility to jobs, healthcare and (most of all) safety. You have been alerted to the fact that since the 1960's we have been working to complete (enlarge to four lanes) the remaining 12 miles of Highway 14 connecting the small town of Nicollet and New Ulm which would complete the important 110 mile route from New Ulm to Rochester.

I would like to mention a specific need located on those 12 miles. It is a growing faith-based school known as Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School (MVL). Each school day more than 200 young and inexperienced drivers commute to this school some from as far as 40 miles away...some by busses but most by individual cars. This number is magnified by school activities coupled with parental and guest attendance. Their safety as they enter and exit their school from Highway 14 has always been a major concern. The new four lane road can greatly help that situation. Our oldest granddaughter who just earned her driver's license is one of those students...she has two younger sisters to follow.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding!

Sincerely,  
Gene and LaDonna Rodewald  
Grandparents

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Rodewald", written in a cursive style.

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** John Micheel <micheejh@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 8:13 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 to New Ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This is a note of support for adding two more lanes to Highway 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm. Our son works in Nicollet so uses this highway five days a week. The heavy truck traffic makes this a dangerous stretch of highway. Our three sons went to Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School which is also on this stretch of road and add to the volume of traffic on this road with a high volume of truck traffic. This is also the main route for Martin Luther College students and their parents as over half of the students are from Wisconsin. Again sharing this road with the high volume of truck traffic makes this stretch dangerous. One of the professors at Martin Luther College lives in Mankato. A semi-truck crossed over his lane this winter and missed hitting him by a few feet. The trucks are a vital part of business activity in New Ulm, but the two lane highway is a safety hazard.

Sincerely,

John Micheel

A concerned New Ulm citizen.

This electronic communication, including any attached documents, may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information that is intended only for use by the recipient(s) named above. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the communication and any attachments. Views expressed by the author do not necessarily represent those of Martin Luther College.





July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the President of South Central College, I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Many of South Central College's students travel to our North Mankato Campus on Highway 14 from Nicollet, Courtland, New Ulm and surrounding areas. As Highway 14 continues to experience growth in commuter and commercial traffic, the safety of and accessibility for our students is a significant concern. With the growth in traffic over the years, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes, giving it the reputation as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since opening our North Mankato Campus in 1968, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. Countless individuals, organizations, municipalities, businesses and institutions throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. It is essential the last 12 miles are complete so that we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Dr. Annette Parker  
President  
South Central College

[www.southcentral.edu](http://www.southcentral.edu)

FARIBAULT CAMPUS | 1225 Third Street SW, Faribault, MN 55021 | tel: 507.332.5800 | toll free: 800.422.0391 | fax: 507.332.5888  
NORTH MANKATO CAMPUS | 1920 Lee Boulevard, North Mankato, MN 56003 | tel: 507.389.7200 | toll free: 800.722.9359 | fax: 507.388.9951

A member of the Minnesota State system. South Central College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator and has ADA accessible facilities.

July 2, 2019

Elaine L. Chao  
US Secretary of Transportation

Dear Ms. Chao:

I write in strong support of the BUILD grant application to complete four lanes on Highway 14 between Nicollet and New Ulm, MN.

The road would bring four lanes of highway to connect two important regional centers. One, Mankato, is about 50,000 people and the other, New Ulm, about 10,000 people. The infrastructure would serve to support economic development far removed from Minneapolis-St. Paul, our state's major metropolitan area. Rural America struggles to provide good paying jobs for our residents. This project would be a major boost to this rural region in south central Minnesota.

I recently retired after serving six years as state representative for the legislative district in which the highway is located. I cannot overstate how important this highway is to the people who live in the area. My first words spoken in the MN House Transportation Committee, of which I was a member, were about how we share a collective sorrow over the many tragic deaths associated with the highway. Many residents have become emotional when talking with me about the highway, none more than the first responders who pulled people from vehicles involved in the accidents.

The potential for economic development in south central Minnesota is very high. We need four lanes of highway connecting New Ulm and Mankato to reach our economic potential and to end the deaths that have impacted so many people in our area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Clark Johnson  
720 Lake Street  
North Mankato, MN 56003  
507-381-5011  
clarkpauljohnson@gmail.com



# NICOLLET PUBLIC SCHOOLS \* ISD 507

One Pine Street \* Nicollet, MN 56074  
District & Elementary Office 507-232-3411  
High School Office 507-232-3448

Fax 507-232-3536 <http://www.isd507.k12.mn.us>

Superintendent: Dennis Morrow \* Principal: Todd Toulouse



Todd Toulouse  
Principal, Nicollet Public School  
1 Pine Street  
Nicollet, MN 56074

Monday, July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this

**"Developing responsible, lifelong learners who are ready to succeed in a changing world."**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 4, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Rev. Mark G. Zarling**

**President, Martin Luther College**





OFFICE of SUPERINTENDENT

10 Civic Center Plaza • Suite Two  
P.O. Box 8741  
Mankato, Minnesota 56002-8741  
Office • 507•387•1868 Fax • 507•387•4257

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this letter of support for the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. Since the 1960s, regional leaders have been working tirelessly on the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane road to a four-lane highway. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is completed.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Paul Peterson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

bjm



Eric Hopp  
Nicollet Public School ISD 507  
1 Pine Street  
Nicollet, MN 56074

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four – Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (Build) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation ( MnDOT) for grant funds from the U. S. Department of Transportation's Build Program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, schools and healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota

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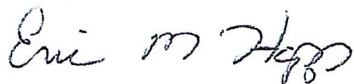
The Build program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for Build grant funding.

Sincerely,



Eric Hopp  
Board Chair  
Nicollet Public School ISD 507

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** KAREN LOE <kk.hhloe@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2019 1:23 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** HWY 14 EXPANSION FROM NICOLLET TO NEW ULM

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Loe's Oil Company, Inc is writing this letter in support of the BUILD grant application expanding Hwy 14 to a four lane expressway between Nicollet and New Ulm, MN. Our trucking firm drives this highway everyday of the week, delivering product. Hwy 14, as a two lane road, has extremely heavy traffic. Approximately 1500 to 2000 trucks per day drive these very narrow lanes navigating the worst possible road conditions.

There have been many accidents, with lives lost, due to the deterioration of this segment of Hwy 14. This stretch of road has been proven to be one of the most dangerous roads in the state.

Opportunities abound with the possibility of Hwy 14 becoming a four lane expressway. Many businesses use this corridor to distribute their product. Many of our trucks have to drive this road knowing their chances of an accident have increased tremendously exposing them and other vehicles to possible injury or death.

Hwy 14 expansion between Nicollet and New Ulm has committed multiple sources of funding to complete this project. This federal grant would go to finish one of the most dangerous roads around. How do you put a price tag or a grant on the saving of human lives due to a poor road condition that could be remedied?

Harvey Loe, CEO  
Loe's Oil Co., Inc

Sent from Windows Mail

PAT LACOURSE

711 3<sup>RD</sup> AVE N.E.

SLEEPY EYE MINNESOTA 56085

JULY 8, 2019


TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

I AM WRITING IN SUPPORT OF HIGHWAY 14 FUNDING FROM NICOLLET MINNESOTA TO NEW ULM MINNESOTA. THIS 16 MILE STRETCH HAS BEEN A DEATH TRAP FOR THE RESIDENTS AND THE TRAVELING PUBLIC FOR THE PAST 40 PLUS YEARS, AND IT IS ABOUT TIME THAT THIS PORTION OF HIGHWAY 14 GET FUNDED.

I AM THE TRANSIT MANAGER FOR A COUNTY BUS SERVICE IN BROWN COUNTY, AND THE 4 LANE EXPANSION WOULD ASSIST US IN MOVING PASSENGERS FROM THE BROWN COUNTY AREA TO PARTS EAST OF HERE LIKE MANKATO AND ROCHESTER. THIS IS THE LAST PORTION OF HIGHWAY 14 THAT NEEDS EXPANSION BETWEEN NEW ULM AND ROCHESTER. IN MY PREVIOUS CAREER I WAS A DRIVER MANAGER FOR A LARGE TRUCKING COMPANY, AND WE MOVED 1,000'S OF TRUCKS IN AND OUT OF OUR MAIN TERMINAL IN NEW ULM, AND THIS ROAD HAS PROVED TO NOT BE ADEQUATE ENOUGH TO SERVE THE BUSINESSES IN THE SOUTHWEST PORTION OF MINNESOTA.

IN CLOSING, I AND HUNDREDS OF OTHERS FROM THIS REGION BEG OF YOU TO SUPPORT THIS BUILD PROGRAM, AND TO FUND THIS MUCH NEEDED PROJECT, BECAUSE TIME AND TIME AGAIN THIS STRETCH OF HIGHWAY 14 COMES IN AS ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS ROADS IN MINNESOTA. IT IS TIME TO GET BEHIND THIS, AND GET THIS PROJECT DONE.

THANK YOU;



PAT LACOURSE

TRANSIT MANAGER

BROWN COUNTY HEARTLAND EXPRESS

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Miki <miki.schultz01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019 9:56 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao

I am writing to ask for your support for the BUILD grant for the Highway 14 project.

Highway 14 New Ulm to Nicollet Task Force officially provided recommendations to MnDOT on June 19, 2018 that include:

- Interchange at CSAH 37/Hwy 14 – New Ulm south access
- RCUTs (J-turns) at MVL High School, New Ulm Quartzite Quarries, and Jeremy Dr (ShadyBrooks subdivision) and a narrower section through this area to limit impacts
- Interchange at an extension of CSAH 24/Hwy 14 north of Courtland – centered on town

Sincerely  
Michelle Schultz

Sent from my iPhone

Ann M. Iverson  
1014 2<sup>nd</sup> North St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 26, 2019

RE: BUILD grant / Hwy 14 Expansion

Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my strong support for the four-lane expansion of Hwy 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm. I have lived in New Ulm nearly all my life. This stretch of highway is not only busy, but it had been deemed one of the most dangerous highways in our state.

How many more lives need to be lost or forever changed due to this highway? In spring and fall the highway is also shared by farm equipment which adds to the dangers due to wide vehicles going slow and people being impatient to pass.

This highway is also a major artery for commerce to and from New Ulm. We have a couple large trucking companies with their terminals in New Ulm which use this highway as well as several large industries. This highway is essential for the growth and prosperity of our town.

Please support the expansion of this highway and I urge the support of the BUILD grant to help pay for this expansion.

Sincerely,  
Ann M. Iverson



Robert Fosburgh  
2346 Abbywood Lane  
North Mankato, MN 56003

June 26, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Robert Fosburgh  
North Mankato, MN

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Sheila Wurtzberger <sheila\_785@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019 7:07 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** highway funding for 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I drive this road at least once a week and I have for years, this has to be the worst stretch of road in Minnesota, you can never pass, there is entirely way too much traffic on it for a two lane road and I would love for it to be a 4 lane. Thanks for listening.

Sheila Wurtzberger  
215 Rice Street NW  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085  
Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** REBECCA Hornaman <bhornaman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019 6:23 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Doris,

I am writing in favor of expanding highway 14 between Nicollet and New Ulm. This is an extremely dangerous roadway in Southern Minnesota. Too many lives have already been lost. There are health care jobs in New Ulm that I would have been interested in, if not for Highway 14. My husband and I also like to visit New Ulm but don't in the winter because of how dangerous it is. The road ices over because of the open country. Imagine driving on a narrow icy road. This would be a worthy project for a beautiful area of Minnesota. Please support the Highway 14 expansion.

Rebecca Hornaman  
Le Sueur MN

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Dale Markgraf <demarkgraf@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2019 11:49 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** US Highway Expansion

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Marla Feikema  
1581 Mourning Dove Path  
Mankato MN 56001

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Marla Feikema



Heather Winters  
PO Box 54  
Good Thunder, MN 56037

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Heather Winters  
Sr Accounting Representative  
Compeer Financial

Kim Dehen  
1706 Lor Ray Dr  
North Mankato, MN

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Kim Dehen

Kkristopher Mathiowetz  
1105 S State Street,  
New Ulm, Minnesota  
56073

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Kristopher Mathiowetz

Paula Ressler  
136 Jacks Dr  
Madison Lake, MN 56063

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Paula Ressler

Ginny Walters  
314 N. Jefferson St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Ginny Walters



Brandon Reinarts  
114 Wishbone Way  
Courtland, MN 56021

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018, my brother.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Brandon Reinarts

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Ryan Grochow <ryan@jarraff.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 10:05 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Ryan Grochow  
804 South Jefferson St  
New Ulm, MN

June 28, 2019

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Grochow

Bob Madsen  
2140 Badger Lane  
Mankato, MN 56001

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota. It is a well-traveled road to say the least.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota. I have witnessed several accidents personally, and have been in several near-misses myself.

Achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle, but a battle worth fighting for. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project will deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Madsen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob Madsen  
Vice President – Mission Financing  
Compeer Financial

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Michele Vogel <michele\_rist@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 11:09 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Nicollet to New Ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

If you have lived in this area for any length of time, you know that this is a terrible, dangerous section of hwy. I personally knew several people that have died in accidents on this section that could have been prevented if this was a 4 lane hwy with a grass buffer in between. I have driven this road many times white knuckled praying that no one comes across the center lane on ice. Please, I beg of you, please help us to make this hwy safer for the thousands of people that drive it daily.



Michele Vogel  
4-H Volunteer, Klossner/Swan Lake & Sprouts 4-H Clubs  
507-217-1977 | michele\_rist@yahoo.com  
319 S Valley St, New Ulm, MN 56073



Create your own [email signature](#)

Lynn Gudgeon  
914 South Jefferson  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gudgeon



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** rforstie24 <rforstie24@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 3:00 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Nicollet to New Ulm

Hello, I am throwing my 100% behind this highway project to finish up. A couple of years ago my now-deceased dad told me this project has been "on the books" for 50 years. He was a life-long resident of New Ulm and owned a hardware store handed down to him by his own dad. One lane for semi trucks traveling to/from New Ulm is unsafe under any circumstances. Have you ever traveled that road? It is a challenge and can be frustrating as well as dangerous to pass. I hope this is taken care of ASAP. Travel safe, wherever you go. Thanks.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Irene Achman  
1615 Oakwood Ave  
New Ulm, MN

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Irene Achman

Brett Mathiowetz  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.  
30676 CO RD 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Brett Mathiowetz  
Vice President  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.

Aaron C Spike  
1119 2<sup>ND</sup> St N  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 29, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Aaron Spike

Darcy Cramblit  
117 Hazelwood Ave.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 29, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

On a personal note I as well as several of my co-workers, drive from New Ulm to St. Peter for work daily. The driving conditions especially during the winter can be scary at times. It is not a safe road to travel on. Making it a 4 lane would increase the safety.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Darcy Cramblit



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** jajwolf1@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 29, 2019 12:27 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** support for Hwy 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hwy 14 should have four lanes from Nicollet to New Ulm this now two lane traffic is terrible. I travel this road often. Also it's the main traffic route for semi trucks transporting there deliveries. I can not understand WHY this project for a four lane expansion can not be completed.

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Joanne Wolf <wolf\_jj@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 9:25 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy. 14 support

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I wholly support the Highway 14 construction between New Ulm & Nicollet. It is heavily traveled and is a death trap and badly needed.

Thank you  
Joanne Wolf  
New Ulm

Sent from my iPad

Leah Matzke  
500 Main Street  
Nicollet, MN 56074

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

We are a family of 6 and we travel the highway for our daily commute to work in New Ulm. The amount of traffic is high and we would be safer if the two-lane project was completed.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Leah Matzke

Cliss Loeschner  
920 21<sup>st</sup> Pine Lane  
Cambridge, MN

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Cliss H. Loeschner  
Preschool Director  
Building Blocks for Life Preschool  
Dr. Martin Luther College Graduate

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Tom / Jackie Roesch <jtroesch@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 7:12 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Expansion from Nicollet to New Ulm, MN

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Doris,

We support the expansion of Hwy 14 from Nicollet to New Ulm, MN. We live in Courtland, MN and it is hard to take a left turn onto Hwy 14 in the morning as there is so much traffic, including semi trucks, on the road.

Jackie & Tom Roesch  
138 Park View CT, Courtland, MN 56021

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Karie Mindock  
2021 Greengrove Street  
Kaukauna, WI 54130

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Karie Mindock  
Former student at MLC, New Ulm  
Mother of future student at MLC, New Ulm



Ronda Mathiowetz  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.  
30676 CO RD 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Ronda Mathiowetz  
Secretary Treasurer/EEO Officer  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** anne grunert <annegrunert1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2019 10:52 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Project from New Ulm to Nicollet

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao,

As a life long resident of the area there is a need for this project to go through. There is so much commuting done by people between New Ulm and Mankato and the accident rate is out of control on Highway 14. I feel that it would also benefit commerce in New Ulm..  
Please consider this project !!

Thanks,  
Anne Grunert

Julie Anderson  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.  
30676 CO RD 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Julie Anderson  
Vice President  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.



Chad Mathiowetz  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.  
30676 CO RD 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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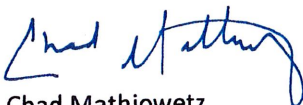
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Chad Mathiowetz  
Vice President  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Jessica Mann <mannfam33@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2019 3:23 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 nicollet to new ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This needs to get done it's 20 years behind schedule, as a truck driver driving this road frequently I've witnessed more serious and fatal accidents than any highway in Minnesota. The surface of the road in Courtland is horrible, just for the sake of courtland residents let's bypass this town to the north and get this highway done finally. North Mankato resident, Joel Mann.

Sent from my iPhone



Construction Company

*In All We Do, We Do It Right!!*

30676 County Road 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

(507) 794-6953 / (507) 794 3514 Fax  
Visit us at: [www.mathiowetzconst.com](http://www.mathiowetzconst.com)

Brian Mathiowetz  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.  
30676 CO RD 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Brian Mathiowetz  
President  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Mary Ann Holm <maholm1516@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2019 4:00 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 expansion to New Ulm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Doris,

There are many reasons that the 4-lane needs to be extended from Nicollet to New Ulm. The biggest concern is safety. It is heavily traveled and there have been numerous accidents and deaths.

New Ulm is the largest city in Minnesota without a direct connection to a 4 lane. There are manufacturing plants and businesses that require trucking.

This section of Highway 14 is in poor condition and we have been waiting for a long time for the update. Please help in getting this section done for us.

Thanks for your help.

Mary Ann Holm  
60588 Valley Hills Drive  
New Ulm, MN 56073

Sent from my iPad

Paul Anderson  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.  
30676 CO RD 24  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Paul Anderson  
Equipment Manager  
Mathiowetz Construction Co.

Lilyce M. Paulsen  
41 Camelsback Road  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Lilyce M. Paulsen

## **Degenstein, Doris (DOT)**

---

**From:** Rosie <frc245@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2019 9:25 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

There is a great need for the Highway 14 construction between Nicollet and New Ulm. I wholly support it. Highway 14 is heavily traveled daily with local business, and freight, has many accidents with death results. Let's get it done.

Thank you,  
Rosemary Franta  
New Ulm

Sent from my iPad

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Lynn Fluegge <lafluegge@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 7:21 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hwy 14 - 4 lane between New Ulm and Nicollet should be at the top of your list because the way it is now it is very dangerous.

Jennifer R Uher  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School  
45638 561<sup>st</sup> Ave  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Jennifer R Uher

Teacher  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School



Jon Isenberg  
2211 Fairbanks Drive  
North Mankato, MN

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Jon Isenberg  
Concerned daily driver from North Mankato to New Ulm

Preston and Amber Portner  
108 Wishbone Way  
Courtland, MN

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely,

Preston and Amber Portner

Jackie Farasyn  
30676 County Road 24  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 02, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Jackie Farasyn  
CFO  
The Mathiowetz Construction Co.

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Craig and Laura Sievert <sievfam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 3:50 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Although Highway 14 has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle since the 1960's. Why I support it:

- Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.
- Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. While state highways average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8%, Highway 14's commercial traffic ranges from 12 to 17%.
- Highway 14 is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.
- Only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.
- The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Please help us improve our highway! Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding. Sincerely,

Laura Sievert, 425 S. State St., New Ulm, MN 56073

Troy Diedrich  
2309 Snowbird Lane  
North Mankato, MN 56003

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

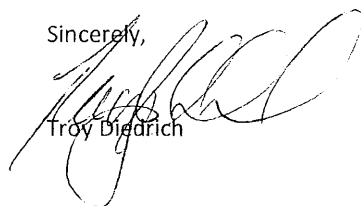
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Troy Diedrich

Michael Schwartz  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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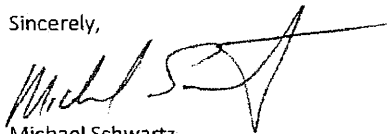
Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Michael Schwartz  
President – New Ulm  
Frandsen Bank & Trust



Randy Schroeder  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Randy Schroeder  
Vice President – New Ulm  
Frandsen Bank & Trust

Jean Osborne  
411 S State St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota. I have lost several dear friends and acquaintances due to crashes on Highway 14.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Jean Osborne-Resident of New Ulm

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** John Meyer <meyerjd@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 05, 2019 10:38 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14 Expansion BUILD Grant Application Support

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Specifically, I am writing as supporter of **Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn**. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

John Meyer

--

Prof. John Meyer, PhD  
Director of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education  
Martin Luther College  
New Ulm, MN

This electronic communication, including any attached documents, may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information that is intended only for use by the recipient(s) named above. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the communication and any attachments. Views expressed by the author do not necessarily represent those of Martin Luther College.

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Wendy Ristow <ristowwl@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 05, 2019 7:56 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Wendy Ristow**  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation 1200  
New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application Dear

Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a

completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Wendy**

***Jesus Loves You!***

***Miss Wendy Ristow  
Administrative Assistant for Admissions  
Martin Luther College  
(507) 354-8221 extension 280***

This electronic communication, including any attached documents, may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information that is intended only for use by the recipient(s) named above. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the communication and any attachments. Views expressed by the author do not necessarily represent those of Martin Luther College.



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Traci Larson <traciwagner@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 04, 2019 7:22 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Grant for highway 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Traci Larson  
1310 11th N St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 4, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

As a daily commuter on this stretch of highway I look forward to its swift completion.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Traci Larson



July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

**Dear Secretary Chao:**

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deb Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Deb Taylor**

CEO

Taylor Corporation

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Jason Worm <jworm@parker.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 5:06 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Jason Worm  
Parker Hannifin Corporation  
2101 North Broadway  
New Ulm, MN

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

---

**Jason Worm, Business Unit Manager**  
email [jworm@parker.com](mailto:jworm@parker.com) · phone (507)233-2323 · mobile (612)518-8056

Parker Hannifin Corporation · Electromechanical Automation, NA  
2101 North Broadway · New Ulm · MN · 56073

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## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** jessica wesselmann <jessicawesselmann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 11:35 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14- Four Lane Expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Jessica Wesselmann

923 N. Jefferson St.

New Ulm, MN 56073

June 28th, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao

Secretary of Transportation

United States Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE

Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Jessica Wesselmann



June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding  
Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion



of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Gary Koch  
Vice President & General Counsel

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Pastor Guenther <pastorguenther@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 12:55 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

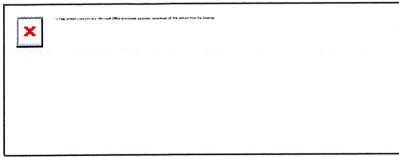
Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

In Christ,  
Pastor Rob Guenther  
(507) 240-2433 (Call or Text)  
(507) 354-6744 (Office)



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, New Ulm, MN  
[627 S Washington St., New Ulm, MN 56073-2178](http://627SWashingtonSt.NewUlm.MN.56073-2178)  
[www.StJohnsNewUlm.com](http://www.StJohnsNewUlm.com)



Sign Pro of Mankato  
301 Webster Ave.  
North Mankato, MN

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Jo Bailey  
Owner  
Sign Pro of Mankato

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Brittany Otto <brittany.otto@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 01, 2019 8:03 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Brittany Otto  
209 Pleasant Street  
Cleveland, MN

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. I, myself, personally used the highway on a daily basis as a teenager attending Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School in rural New Ulm. I had numerous friends and classmates that were in accidents along this stretch of road. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Brittany Otto

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Bret Johnson <bretajohnson11@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 6:22 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Bret Johnson  
1022 S Jefferson St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 30, 2019 [doris.degenstein@state.mn.us](mailto:doris.degenstein@state.mn.us)

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Bret Johnson



Michelle Owens  
1414 8<sup>th</sup> North Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Michelle Owens

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Treacy Meyer <meyeron\_main@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 4:49 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Treacy Meyer  
Business (if applicable)  
712 Main st  
Courtland, MN

June 28,2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject:Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Treacy Meyer  
Title  
Business  
Sent from my iPhone



MASCHKA, RIEDY, RIES & FRENZ LAW FIRM

151 Saint Andrews Court, Building 1010 | Mankato, Minnesota 56001  
Phone 507-625-6600 | Fax 507-625-4002 | Email [mrr-law@mrr-law.com](mailto:mrr-law@mrr-law.com) | Website [mrr-law.com](http://mrr-law.com)

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding  
Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Gerald L. Maschka\*<sup>■</sup>\* | John Chuck Peterson | Renee C. Rubish\* | Nick A. Frenz\*\* | George E. (Jed) Chronic<sup>▲</sup>  
Nicholas J. Maxwell | Joseph M. Bromeland<sup>♦♦</sup> | Abbie S. Olson | Eric G. Iverson | Brent J. Peterson

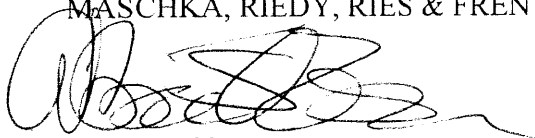
\*Board Certified as Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and/or the Minnesota State Bar Association. <sup>●</sup>Also Admitted in South Dakota  
<sup>▲</sup>Also admitted in Florida, Illinois & Missouri <sup>♦</sup>Also admitted in Iowa <sup>■</sup>Qualified ADR Neutral <sup>\*</sup>Member of the American Board of Trial Advocates

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Respectfully,

MASCHKA, RIEDY, RIES & FRENTZ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abbie S. Olson', written over the firm name.

Abbie S. Olson  
aolson@mrr-law.com



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** austinson@newulmtel.net  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 1:43 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Katherine Austinson  
Community And Seniors Togethef  
600 N German  
New Ulm, MN56073

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Katherine Austinson  
Director  
Community And Seniors Together

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** cbroth1@newulmtel.net  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2019 10:41 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** hwy 14 expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Cheri Roth  
605 North German  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Cheri Roth

Sue Christensen  
27411 Omega Ave  
Morgan MN 56266

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Sue Christensen

**Lori Unke, Admissions Counselor, MLC**

Martin Luther College

1995 Luther Court

New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao

Secretary of Transportation

United States Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE

Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Prof Lori Unke**



July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L Chao  
Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Bill Otis  
CEO

Bryanne Freitag  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 8, 2019

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program. I have a 16-year-old son who drives this highway to Minnesota Valley Lutheran Haigh School. I am concerned about the safety of my son and all of his friends and classmates.

I am also writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Bryanne Freitag

**Kate Tohal**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Kate Tohal**

Larry Thompson  
324 West Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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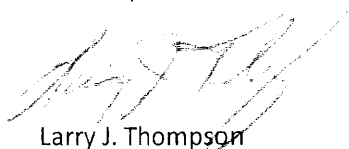
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Larry J. Thompson

Troy Traulich  
701 23<sup>rd</sup> Street North  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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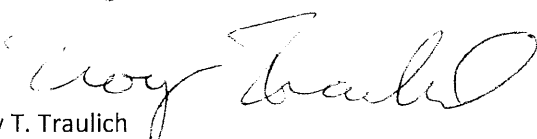
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

  
Troy T. Traulich

Karen Traulich  
701 23<sup>rd</sup> Street North  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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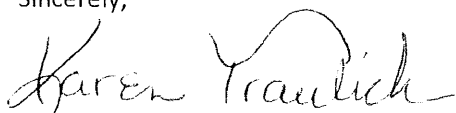
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Traulich". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Karen A. Traulich



Mitchell Traulich  
717 23<sup>rd</sup> Street North  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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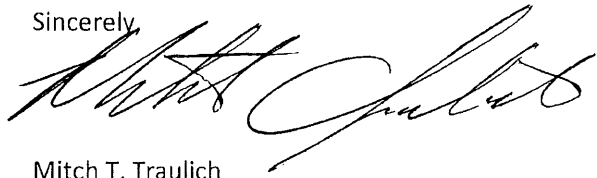
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitch T. Traulich', written over a horizontal line.

Mitch T. Traulich

Shane Traulich  
520 North Payne Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Traulich", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shane T. Traulich

July 8, 2019

To: Elaine L. Chao  
U. S. Secretary of Transportation

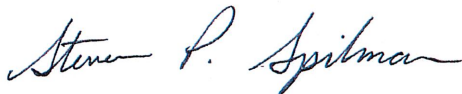
From: Steven P. Spilman  
305 Zimmerman Road  
Courtland, MN 56021

Subject: Support Highway 14 Grant

Greetings Secretary Chao,

Please support the grant application to complete the Highway 14 section between Nicollet, MN and New Ulm, MN to make it a four-lane road. We need this significant road improvement to make it safer for all travelers. There are multiple trucking and construction companies headquartered in New Ulm who use this road daily. This section of road has many semi-trucks and dump trucks traveling it. This section of road also runs through a farming community which results in large farm equipment as well as grain trucks at harvest time. As a resident of Courtland, MN, which is halfway between Nicollet and New Ulm, it is getting harder to make left turns onto Highway 14. Please support approval of the grant request to complete this section of road to make it a four-lane road.

Very Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven P. Spilman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Jeff and Sue Pinske  
110 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, PO Box 12  
Arlington, MN 55307

July 6, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is located along Highway 14 between New Ulm and Nicollet. As parents of children that attended MVL, we know how busy that stretch of highway can be. During the school year, hundreds of students, parents, faculty, and staff members travel that road every day to attend school, extracurricular activities, and events. The known safety issues and history of serious accidents on that stretch of road are a significant concern and a threat to the students and school families that use that road on a daily basis. We need the BUILD grant funding to help us address this serious issue.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Jeff and Sue Pinske

Stephen Balza  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 6, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Steve Balza

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Roger Klockziem <klockzrc@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 07, 2019 7:34 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** hwy 14 funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I would like to add my voice for seeking federal funding for MN hwy 14. There are many facets for upgrading to four lanes. First of all this need has historical documentation. Requests for funding for this upgrade is decades old. Repeatedly, the need for greater safety has been documented. Temporary fixes have been made in anticipation of a permanent solution. Travel for commerce has been constant and increasing. Trucking companies in New Ulm demand better conditions. The addition of national companies since initial requests for improvements like Walmart and Menards has added to the need for greater road capacity. New Ulm is a tourist town which dictates safe and quick travel. New Ulm has become a medical, legal, educational, and housing center with demographic changes in rural areas. Brown County remains a strong agricultural area with the associated transportation support. One of the largest pork operations in America adds to the need for good roads.

This electronic communication, including any attached documents, may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information that is intended only for use by the recipient(s) named above. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the communication and any attachments. Views expressed by the author do not necessarily represent those of Martin Luther College.



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** danddmanning@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 07, 2019 9:13 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Doris, The four lane extension of Highway 14 around Nicolette is much appreciated but we need it extended to New Ulm, which is the most populated city in Minnesota without a four lane access, which also has several large trucking companies paying millions of dollars in road use taxes. There are so many trucks coming to New Ulm everyday that our Wal-Mart looks like a truck stop in the morning. Please send this message on to Elaine Chao in Washington DC. Sincerely David and Deb Manning

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Barry R Rockvam <soolinef7@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 07, 2019 10:16 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 between New Ulm and Nicollet

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Ms Degenstein

I used to live in New Ulm and now live in Redwood Falls.

We have two children living in Mankato and visit frequently but find the travel between these two cities very heavily

traveled and appears to be getting more dangerous as time goes on.

Since the completion of the road from Nicollet to Mankato has been finished it is a real treat to travel that stretch of road.

This road work has been in the works for about 50 years and seems like it should have been finished many years ago.

I think that this should be one of the top road projects that should be done in 2020 or even started in 2019 if that is even possible.

I am 71 years old and not something that has only been going on for a couple years for me.

Thank you,

Barry R Rockvam  
Redwood Falls MN

Randy & Brenda Jones  
108 1<sup>st</sup> St #9  
Courtland, MN 56021

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

*Randy & Brenda Jones*

Randy & Brenda Jones

Gary Hulke  
51771 County Road 21  
Courtland, MN 56021

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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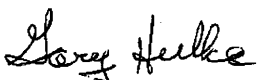
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Gary Hulke

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Edward Wieben <ehwieben@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 05, 2019 9:31 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hey 14 to new Ulm!

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please do whatever it take,s to get this death road replaced! With a 4 lane! Please! We have almost 1000 trucks that run into an out if new Ulm weekly/daily.! 4 lane would really help! An improve our business also!

**Tami Board**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Dear Secretary Chao:

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**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

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Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Tami Board**

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Rhonda Wieben <wieben.rhonda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 06, 2019 10:42 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Requesting support for BUILD grant for MN Hwy. 14 expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

ATTN:  
US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao

I am sending my support for US Highway 14 four-lane expansion from New Ulm to Nicollet in MN. I am hoping you will help MN get the BUILD grant to make this happen. I personally have traveled this highway daily and it is a heavily traveled congested road. Many people commute on this road daily for work. And I personally have traveled several times to Rochester Mayo Clinic and I know many others that have also from New Ulm area. Please help relieve this congested traffic area by providing this grant to MN.

Sincerely,  
Rhonda Wieben



Professor Ross Stelljes  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Having served our college as a recruiter for nearly 12 years, I traveled that stretch of the highway hundreds of times, and the high volume of commercial truck traffic frequently made it challenging and dangerous. Much of the truck traffic originates in New Ulm since it is the home to several large trucking firms.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018 (my next-door neighbor).

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Ross Stelljes

Deborah Kuck  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School  
45638 560st Avenue  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 05, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Deborah Kuck  
Financial Secretary  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School  
(also a parent of former MVL students)

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** rrsh@newulmtel.net  
**Sent:** Friday, July 05, 2019 1:28 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy.14-- 4 lane project

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Doris:

We need to get FUNDING for the Hwy. 14, 4 lane project from Nicollet to New Ulm. Besides of all the vehicles on that Hwy. there are numerous semis bringing product to and from the surrounding area, not to mention the deaths that occurred from the heavy traffic.

Concerned citizen

Roger Hoffmann

James Carlovsky  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

James Carlovsky

Professor of Mathematics and Instructional Technology

Lisa Roeder  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Lisa Roeder  
Residential Operations Center-New Ulm

Mortgage Servicing Specialist

Frandsen Bank & Trust

**Susan Haar**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely,

Susan Haar

Kathryn Carlovsky  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely,

Kathryn Carlovsky

MLC Organ and Piano Instructor



**Carla Melendy**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely,

Carla Melendy

Jeff Boettger  
New Ulm Basketball Association  
PO Box 612  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely

Jeff Boettger  
President  
New Ulm Basketball Association

**Rachel Feld**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

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United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Rachel Feld**

Brian Goblirsch  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Brian Goblirsch  
Servicing Supervisor – New Ulm  
Frandsen Bank & Trust

Rev. Michael J. Otterstatter  
VP for Mission Advancement  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution. Also, both of my children attended Minnesota Valley Lutheran H.S. and regularly reflected on how dangerous Highway 14 was between New Ulm and Mankato.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. J. Otterstatter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "M" and "J".

Aaron Bartelt  
321 S Lincoln St  
Lake Crystal, MN 56055

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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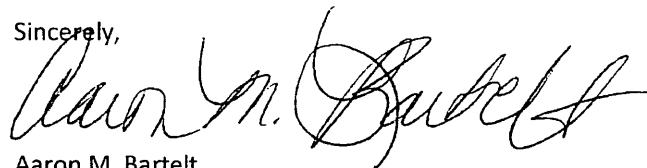
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron M. Bartelt", written in a cursive style.

Aaron M. Bartelt

**Valerie Bovee**

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Valerie Bovee**



Dr. James Grunwald  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



James R. Grunwald

Laura Balza  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Laura Balza

Professor Alan E. Uher  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Sincerely,

Professor Alan E. Uher

**Bob Martens**  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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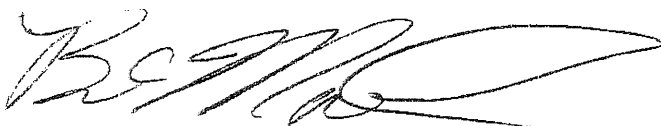
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Martens', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Bob Martens**

**Jackie L. Dalueg**  
1115 S Franklin St  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Jackie L. Dalueg**

Arien Sell  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Arien Sell  
Trust Operations  
Frandsen Bank & Trust

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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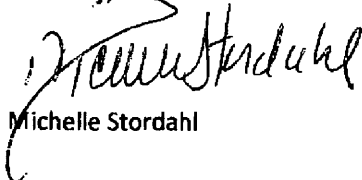
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Michelle Stordahl



Lori Enter  
Trinity Lutheran Church & School  
425 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Nicollet, MN. 56074

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Sincerely,

Lori Enter  
Administrative Secretary  
Trinity Lutheran Church & School

Kelsey & Cody Rose  
PO Box 406  
Nicollet, MN 56074

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Kelsey & Cody Rose

July 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Lacey Stolt  
811 2<sup>nd</sup> Street South  
New Ulm, MN 56073

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** muesing@hickorytech.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2019 11:16 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Nicollet-New Ulm Hwy 14 funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

It's indisputable that not only is highway 14 one of the most dangerous roads in the state, but it is also heavily used by truck commerce between Mankato and New Ulm. I have tried to minimize 'white-knuckle' drives on the road. Extension of the 4-lane expansion of the highway from Nicollet to New Ulm would dramatically improve driver safety and facilitate critical truck commerce.

Richard Muesing; 416 Nichols Court; St. Peter, MN 56082

Barbara Manthey  
1126 Lindsay Drive  
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

While I do not live in Minnesota, I do have family in New Ulm. I also have concern for the safety of the students who attend Martin Luther College in New Ulm and must drive this dangerous stretch of highway frequently.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Manthey

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Paul Holzhuetter  
1585 Sherwood Drive  
North Mankato, MN 56003



Todd Toulouse  
413 Riverview Dr  
Courtland, MN 56021

Monday, July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Todd Toulouse  
Resident of Courtland, MN 56021



Kari Loe  
MRCI  
15 Map Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



**Kari Loe**  
Transportation Manager  
MRCI

July 3, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Julie Olson  
Servicing Specialist  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
New Ulm, MN

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Ruth Palmer <rgpalmer@newulmtel.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 8:13 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** I'm all for the highway 14 expansion to New Ulm. If you are following someone it is impossible to pass. As a result people take chances which causes accidents

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Sent from my iPad

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Mattea Sievert <mattea.sievert@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 6:17 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Although Highway 14 has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle since the 1960's. Why I support it:

- Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.
- Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. While state highways average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8%, Highway 14's commercial traffic ranges from 12 to 17%.
- Highway 14 is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.
- Only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.
- The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Please help us improve our highway! Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Mattea Sievert, 425 S. State St., New Ulm, MN 56073

Lauri Ludewig  
423 N Garden Street  
New Ulm, MN

July 02, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

I personally travel this stretch of highway 5 days a week commuting between New Ulm and Mankato, MN. I have seen my fair share of dangerous incidences including but not limited to unsafe passing and drifting over the center line, and that is in good driving conditions. I have also seen the impact of the increase in safety since the four-lane expansion has included the stretch between Mankato and Nicollet, MN.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lauri Ludewig". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Lauri Ludewig

Lisa Mack  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Lisa Mack  
Frandsen Bank & Trust

Amber Pietan  
Amber Pietan Travel Agency, Inc  
340 Pierce Ave  
North Mankato, MN 56003

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Amber Pietan  
Owner  
Amber Pietan Travel Agency, Inc



John W. Paulsen  
41 Camelsback Road  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

John W. Paulsen

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Tom Polich <tom.polich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 5:35 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Letter

Tom Polich  
940 Pioneer Ave  
Lafayette, MN  
July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've

worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs. Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Tom Polich

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Valerie Fischer <fischevk@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 3:56 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Valerie Fischer**  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

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Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Valerie Fischer**

**MLC employee and life-long resident of New Ulm**

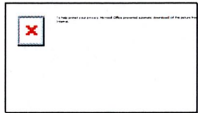
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**Valerie Fischer**  
**Communications Specialist**

**Martin Luther College**  
**Graduate Studies and Continuing Education**

1995 Luther Ct. | New Ulm, MN 56073  
507-354-8221 Ext. 368

*Visit our website <https://mlc-wels.edu/>*



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## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Natasha Aldrich <natasha.aldrich.goblirsch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 11:36 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** highway 14 expansion, Courtland

Natasha Goblirsch  
36 Fiemeyer Drive  
Courtland, MN

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

We live on a frontage road on the East end of town. Semi traffic along with other traffic has increased significantly. It is difficult to get on and off the highway to begin my work commute. I worry about my daughter's safety trying to bike to the ball park.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Natasha Aldrich Goblirsch and family

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## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Ramona Czer <czerrm@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 11:20 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Ramona Czer, Adjunct Instructor  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

June 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Ramona Czer

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**"Imagination is the greatest gift God has given us and it ought to be devoted entirely to Him."  
Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest***

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Diane Tracy <tracydl@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 9:10 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Diane Tracy  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane  
Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Diane Tracy

Martin Luther College | Administrative Assistant Staff Ministry & Congregational Assistant Program

1995 Luther Ct. | New Ulm, MN 56073

tracydl@mlc-wels.edu | 507-354-8221

Staff Ministry & CAP Office: Ext. 383 | Fax: 507-354-8225 | WCC 127 Visit us at

[https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=www.mlc-](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=www.mlc-wels.edu&data=02%7C01%7Cdoris.degenstein%40state.mn.us%7Cba6031594beb40f328de08d703adfd5a%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C1%7C636981918129647357&sdata=V8DvgPs%2BtrU1or%2FU6TuHOVd%2FGn8caNY2UY%2B9xnH1SU%3D&reserved=0)

[wels.edu&data=02%7C01%7Cdoris.degenstein%40state.mn.us%7Cba6031594beb40f328de08d703adfd5a%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C1%7C636981918129647357&sdata=V8DvgPs%2BtrU1or%2FU6TuHOVd%2FGn8caNY2UY%2B9xnH1SU%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=www.mlc-wels.edu&data=02%7C01%7Cdoris.degenstein%40state.mn.us%7Cba6031594beb40f328de08d703adfd5a%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C1%7C636981918129647357&sdata=V8DvgPs%2BtrU1or%2FU6TuHOVd%2FGn8caNY2UY%2B9xnH1SU%3D&reserved=0)

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## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Joyce Schubkegel <schubkjc@mlc-wels.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 3:51 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support - US Highway 14 Four-Lane Highway Expansion

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Joyce C. Schubkegel  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8th, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation 1200  
New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application Dear

Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Specifically, I am writing as a supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.

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Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.  
Sincerely,

Joyce Schubkegel  
Music Professor Emeritus  
Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN  
507-354-8221, Extension 321

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## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

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**From:** Rhonda JW <rjburge@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 06, 2019 11:08 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Regarding support for Hwy. 14 expansion/BUILD grant

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Rhonda Burge  
105 S State St  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 6, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program. Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs. Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Rhonda Burge

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Bradley Koenig <bradleyrobertkoenig@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 9:05 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Highway 14 Four Lane Expansion- New Ulm to Nicollet

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

US Secretary of Transportation, Elaine L. Chao

Dear Madam Secretary,

I would like to urge you to expand the four lane from New Ulm to Nicollet, Minnesota. As a teacher I drove that road twice every school day to get to and from work. Countless times I barely avoided accidents and even witnessed several. There have been a number of fatal accidents on that stretch that could have been decreased or avoided altogether if this was a four lane.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Brad Koenig**  
**50450 800th Avenue**  
**Hector MN 55342**  
**320-848-6583**  
**Minnesota State Mankato Mavericks**

---

Matt Schumann  
42433 Kerns Dr  
North Mankato, MN 56003

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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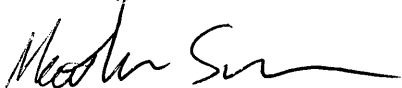
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Schumann', with a stylized, flowing script.

Matt Schumann  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School supporter

Mary Hussman  
7 Indian Point Drive  
New Ulm, M

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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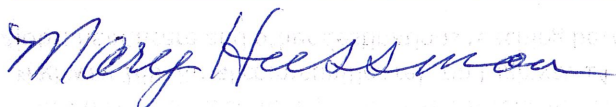
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Mary Hussman  
Resident of New Ulm who is concerned with the heavy truck traffic as we drive to Mankato.





David Kock  
508 River Hills Road  
Mankato, MN 56001

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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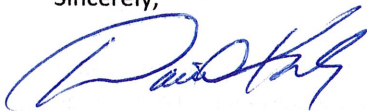
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



David Kock  
Concerned MVL Parent

Karly Kock  
508 River Hills Road  
Mankato, MN 56001

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time its experienced growth, Highway 14 has also seen an increase in crashes and is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960's, achieving the vision of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. But we won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Karly Kock  
Concerned MVL Parent

Melissa Braulick  
18732 150<sup>th</sup> Ave  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

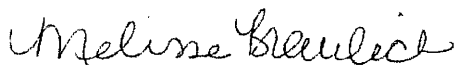
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Melissa Braulick



Susan Hamen  
613 Pioneer Circle  
Belle Plaine, MN 56011

June 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – US Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the US Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Susan Hamen

**Kelly Diersen**  
114 Bianchi Dr  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as a parent of a student at Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School. The school is right on Hwy 14. Every day I pray that all of the students make it there and home safely on such a busy street. I have had 3 children graduate already and 1 student still there. Each time they graduate I breathe a sigh of relief that they will not longer be travelling that road daily.**

**I am also I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Kelly Diersen**

Philip Balge  
303 Hollywood Avenue  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 7, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support — U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding  
Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and is a vital interregional corridor between the trade centers of New Ulm, Mankato, Waseca, Owatonna, Rochester, and Winona. Each of these communities depends on Highway 14 to support their economies and provide safe movement for their citizens to other parts of the state and nation.

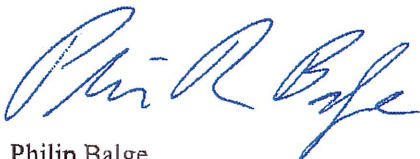
Primarily, I am writing as a lifelong resident of New Ulm, Minnesota. The goal of expanding Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester has been a high-priority issue for our town since at least the 1960s. The last step towards achieving this goal is to fund the four-lane expansion of the highway between New Ulm and Nicollet, 12 miles away. New Ulm is home to businesses and organizations which have been using Highway 14 daily for many decades. Heavy commercial volumes on Highway 14 currently range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. For contrast, the average commercial traffic across all Minnesota state highways is about 8 percent. While the high rate of commercial traffic on Highway 14 is undoubtedly a blessing for New Ulm's economy, it is also a detriment to the safety of its citizens as long as the highway remains a two-lane corridor.

I also write as a student at Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm. The safety of Highway 14 is critical to MLC's students, the majority of which use the highway between school and home. Additionally, the college's faculty, sports teams, musical groups, and visitors depend on the highway to reach their destinations, sometimes in inclement weather. A four-lane expansion of Highway 14 has positive implications for the safety and mobility of the MLC family.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by MnDOT for BUILD program funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Philip Balge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Philip" and last name "Balge" clearly distinguishable.

Philip Balge

Sara Paszkiewicz  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Sara Paszkiewicz  
Documentation Specialist I  
Frandsen Bank & Trust

Mary Beranek  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
100 N. Minnesota St.  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Mary Beranek  
Senior Internal Auditor  
Frandsen Bank & Trust

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Kylie Beran <kylieberan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 5:37 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Honorable Elaine L. Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs. Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,  
Kylie Beran  
New Ulm Resident  
Small-Business Owner and  
Frequent Highway 14 Traveler



## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Kelly Nance <kjnance1544@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 7:49 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

For a smooth transition from New Ulm through Mankato and beyond, it would make sense to finish with the double highway. The stretch from New Ulm to Mankato has always been a difficult area with little ability to pass. I was surprised that this stretch wasn't done first! I look forward to welcoming the grant to get this project completed. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Tyler Buckentine <tbuckentine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 9:10 PM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** BUILD Grant

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Elaine L. Chao:

The opportunity for people in the communities along the U.S. Highway 14 corridor from New Ulm to Nicollet in Southern Minnesota to have their thoughts and opinions heard by someone of your esteemed position is a important one to take advantage of.

At least, it is for me. My profession requires me to drive a large truck on U.S. 14, I use it to commute to work and it is often the first leg of my family's travels when we leave New Ulm and the home stretch when we return.

The BUILD Grant would help provide the funds that would give us what we all desire: a road that is as safe as it is convenient. U.S. 14 has overgrown what two lanes of pavement can provide as traffic volume swells through Nicollet County. The statistics serve as evidence of an unsafe roadway when stretches of U.S. 14 were limited to two lanes, but statistics become more than numbers on a spreadsheet when it's your child covered in blood as he's airlifted away moments after a head-on collision.

It can all be avoided. Steps have been taken in most spots on U.S. 14 to improve the chance that it will be. Stretches have been boosted from two-lane traffic to four-lane freeways. The project to make a stretch west of Rochester four lanes is encouraging and though our project from New Ulm to Nicollet is not funded yet, the plans are there and the people are ready for improvement and change.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tyler Buckentine  
812 N. Franklin St.  
New Ulm, MN  
320-223-9986

**Darrell Berg**  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 8, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

**Specifically, I am writing as supporter of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Mn. The safety of this highway corridor is very important to our students and their families as well as our traveling faculty, sports teams, touring musical groups, and hundreds of visitors who attend our events. Those associated with Martin Luther College log thousands of miles each year, often during times of challenging weather conditions. The safety of our college community on this highway is critical to the operation of our institution.**

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**Darrell Berg**

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** rich turbes <richturbes@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 10:34 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 14

Please find funding to make Hwy 14 from New Ulm to Nicollet a 4 lane !! This 2 lane from New Ulm to Nicollet is very dangerous

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

## Degenstein, Doris (DOT)

---

**From:** Janet Neubauer <jrmneubauer@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 10:45 AM  
**To:** Degenstein, Doris (DOT)  
**Subject:** Funding hwy 14

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This is urgent:

We need funding for the completion of Hwy 14 from New Ulm to Mankato.

This stretch of road is very dangerous, with numerous fatalities.

It is heavily traveled to Mankato State University and Rochester Mayo. And many workers in New Ulm travel to and live in Mankato This funding has been promised for years.

It is time to fulfill that promise.

Concerned citizen,  
Janet Neubauer

Sent from my iPhone

**John Ring**  
Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073

July 10, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

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The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

**John Ring**

**MLC Staff**

Rachel Richart  
1007 Mary St.  
Watertown, WI 53094

June 30, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

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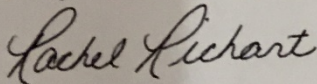
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Rachel Richart  
Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN, graduate class of 2006  
Frequent traveler of Hwy 14 to visit family in MN



Terri Jensen, ALC (Accredited Land Consultant)  
National Land Realty  
1005 Superior Drive  
Northfield, MN 55057

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program.

Highway 14 travels in an east-west direction through southern Minnesota and has been designated as a primary corridor for connecting regional trade centers and other integral roadways, including Highway 60, Interstate 35 and Highway 169. Rural communities rely on Highway 14 for commerce, agriculture, manufacturing and accessibility to jobs, healthcare and other destinations reaching beyond Minnesota.

Highway 14 has experienced significant growth in traffic, from local communities and commuters to agriculture and freight. As a testament to the significance of Highway 14, heavy commercial volumes range from 12-17 percent of all traffic. Across Minnesota state highways the average heavy commercial traffic is approximately 8 percent. At the same time as it has experienced growth, Highway 14 has seen an increase in crashes. It is now referred to by many as one of the deadliest stretches of highway in Minnesota.

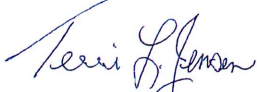
Since the 1960s, achieving the goal of converting Highway 14 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway has been an uphill battle. As of today, only 12 miles are left to fund until all 110 miles of Highway 14 from New Ulm to Rochester is a completed four-lane highway. This remaining two-lane segment from Nicollet to New Ulm continues to have safety issues including a recent fatality in 2018.

The BUILD program seeks to improve access to reliable and safe transportation in rural areas of varying sizes, which is what the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project plans to deliver. The improvements from this project will encourage economic growth and strengthen a major transportation artery in the heart of southern Minnesota.

Countless businesses, residents, cities, counties, farmers, manufacturers, legislators, and families throughout southern Minnesota have come together to stand united behind the four-lane expansion of Highway 14. We've worked tirelessly and passionately, and not without successes and failures along the way. We won't rest until the last 12 miles are complete, knowing we have a safe and reliable infrastructure to support the region's needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,



Terri Jensen, ALC  
Managing Broker – MN, National Land Realty  
507-382-0908 [tjensen@nationalland.com](mailto:tjensen@nationalland.com)  
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Kyle and Ahnna Compart  
40750 441<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Nicollet MN 56074

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – U.S. Highway 14 Four-Lane Expansion Project  
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Thank you for your consideration of the Highway 14 four-lane expansion project application for BUILD grant funding.

Sincerely,

Ahnna Compart

Jenna Schumann  
42433 Kerns Dr  
North Mankato, MN 56003

July 1, 2019

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Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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Jenna Schumann  
Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School supporter