

Council member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-__

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE RURAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR US HIGHWAY 169

WHEREAS, US Highway 169 in Aitkin County is part of the National Highway System (NHS) and is an important regional, statewide and national freight corridor serving the agricultural, forestry, mining, manufacturing, retail, and tourism industries, and

WHEREAS, the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200 does not meet geometric safety standards for shoulder width and slopes within the recovery area, and

WHEREAS, the lack of paved standard-width shoulders on the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200 represents a severe freight safety gap in the US Highway 169 corridor, as the entire remainder of this NHS corridor has wide paved shoulders in place, or is programmed to receive such improvements, and

WHEREAS, the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200, based on available crash and traffic data, has a fatal crash rate of over 2.1 per 100 million vehicle miles traveled over the past ten years, which is one of the highest rates of any NHS highway segment in the northern region of Minnesota and over 250 percent above the median crash rate for NHS routes in the northern region of Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200 was identified in the 2019 District 1 Freight Plan as one of only four segments in District 1 with an overlap between stakeholder-identified safety needs and data-identified safety needs, and

WHEREAS, the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200 was identified in the 1998 Trunk Highway 169/210 Corridor Study prepared by MnDOT District 3 as needing wider shoulders to address freight movement and safety concerns, and

WHEREAS, the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200 is currently scheduled to be programmed for resurfacing and shoulder widening improvements in 2027, and

WHEREAS, the Rural Surface Transportation Grant (RSTG) Program within the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity exists to provide funding to construction projects with significant national or regional impact or to improve or expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas, and

WHEREAS, an application for the RSTG Program is being submitted by MnDOT Districts 1 and 3 for resurfacing and shoulder widening on the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Grand Rapids strongly supports the RSTG application being submitted for the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in the event that the RSTG application is not successful, that the City Council of the City of Grand Rapids strongly supports the continuing efforts of MnDOT Districts 1 and 3 to construct the long overdue shoulder widening improvements on the 24-mile segment of US Highway 169 from the Mississippi River bridge to Minnesota Trunk Highway 200 in 2027.

Adopted by the Council this 9th day of May, 2022.

Dale Christy, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Johnson-Gibeau, City Clerk

Councilmember seconded the foregoing resolution and the following voted in favor thereof;
; and the following voted against same: ; whereby the resolution was declared duly passed and
adopted.