



## Minnesota Department of Transportation

Office of Transportation System Management  
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June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Dear Chair Hargis:

Commissioner Zelle has asked me to respond to your May 13th letter regarding selection criteria for Metropolitan area Corridors of Commerce projects.

Thank you for your offer to assist with creating selection criteria for the next round of Corridors of Commerce. As we now know, the legislature funded the program with \$6.5 million in Fiscal Year 2014 for projects outside of the Metropolitan area and another \$25 million for Fiscal Year 2015 projects statewide. MnDOT's goal is to announce projects for the \$6.5 million of Fiscal Year 2014 funding by July 1 and announce the projects for the \$25 million from Fiscal Year 2015 around October 1, 2014.

To meet this goal we will need to work quickly. So as requested by TAB, I propose that MnDOT draft a proposal and schedule for a project selection process and make this a topic of discussion at TAB's July meeting. Over the subsequent four weeks, MnDOT and Met Council staff would take MnDOT's programmatic goals and TAB's input to create acceptable project selection criteria for Corridors of Commerce projects from the Metropolitan area. MnDOT would return to the August TAB meeting to present the completed criteria for review.

Thank you for your continuing partnership and interest in the Corridors of Commerce program at MnDOT. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Gieseke".

Mark Gieseke, Director  
Office of Transportation System Management

cc: Scott McBride, MnDOT TAB representative  
Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator  
Eric Davis, MnDOT Chief of Staff

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