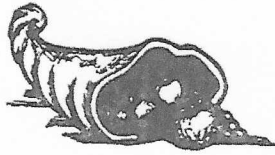


TOWN OF BELL

BAYFIELD COUNTY
715-743-3356 PO Box 280
CORNUCOPIA, WISCONSIN 54827



March 31, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support – Bayfield County Wisconsin application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) funding

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Town of Bell, Bayfield County Wisconsin, we are pleased to submit this Letter of Support for Bayfield County's application for a RAISE grant to help fund critical infrastructure needs.

This project will:

- Create a second all season north south road in Bayfield County.
- Improve resident and visitor access to Bayfield County.
- Improve traveler safety between US Highway 2 and State Highway 27
- Provide the forest industry year-round access to county and national forest lands
- Provide Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Barnes and Iron River

County Highway A south and the western segment of County Highway N provide access to 30% of forest lands in Bayfield County. During spring, load limits are in place for approximately 60 days limiting logging, fuel and other loads on the highway.

This proposed project includes plans for reconstructing these roads to all season status. Improvements include base improvements, surfacing, road widening and improved shoulders, improving safety, rideability and all-season access for trucking in addition to electric vehicle charging stations. These improvements will create immediate savings for local businesses and strengthen the county's rural communities.

Two Electric Vehicle charging stations will open the US 2 and Highway 27 Corridors to tourist and resident EVs.

This project's improvements are consistent with the RAISE program's goals and those of our Town whose goals include providing stable roads that provide safe routes for our

citizens, facilitate tourism and support our businesses and management of forestland, all of which are essential to the vitality of our area. The proposed transportation improvements in this application will support these goals by greatly improve safety, mobility of commercial traffic, and rural economic growth in addition to having positive environmental and climate impacts by encouraging electric vehicle usage in Bayfield County.

This letter of recommendation was reviewed and approved by unanimous vote of the Town of Bell Board of Supervisors at a properly notice public meeting.

Thank you for your consideration and approval of this application.

Sincerely,

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

Roger Lindgren

Chairman, Town of Bell