



March 15, 2023

State and Local Government Finance and Policy Committee

Minnesota House of Representatives

RE: HF2405 and HF2406

Dear Chair Klevorn and Members of the House State and Local Government Finance and Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance I am writing to urge your support for HF2405 and HF2406.

Minnesota's infrastructure continues to age and deteriorate while funding to maintain and repair our roads, bridges, transit, ports and other infrastructure falls behind. Broader adoption of asset management systems can help inform systematic operations, maintenance, and upgrades. Comprehensively tracking the age, repairs, and maintenance status of the infrastructure we have will help control and reduce the need for disruptive emergency improvements.

Much of Minnesota's infrastructure is aging and reaching the end of its expected lifespan. We think these two bills will help infrastructure by making it easier for local governments to be aware of and receive funding, will more equitably distribute funding, and will create more resilient infrastructure.

**HF2405, creating the Infrastructure Resilience Advisory Task Force** will improve coordination, sustainability and resiliency of our infrastructure, providing strategies for effective and efficient management of state, local, and private infrastructure.

This Task Force will identify approaches to enhance infrastructure coordination across jurisdictions, agencies, state and local government, and public and private sectors, including in planning, design, engineering, construction, maintenance, and operations. We also believe it is important for the state to identify methods to maximize federal formula and discretionary funds provided to recipients in the state for infrastructure purposes and bringing agencies and organizations together will allow for better communication and decision making.

**Since 1893**

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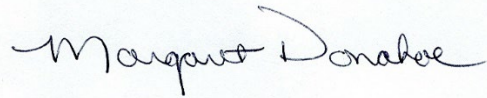
We need someone working full-time to maximize Minnesota's ability to compete for and secure federal IIJA funds. Please support **HF2406 to appoint a Federal Infrastructure Coordinator**.

Appointing a federal infrastructure coordinator, does exactly what National Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator Mitch Landrieu recommended in his Letter to Governors in January 2022. This coordinator would serve as a centralized point of contact in our state's work to secure the billions of dollars in federal funding that will be available in the next four years. We'd greatly improve the competitiveness of our applications through better agency coordination and project diversity. A state coordinator would bring expertise and leadership and maximize the effectiveness of how funding is obtained and spent.

Thank you for your consideration. The member organizations of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance are on the front lines every day, planning, designing, constructing and operating Minnesota's transportation system.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Donahoe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Margaret Donahoe  
Executive Director