



# *City of New Ulm*

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*Office of the Mayor*    **Robert “Bob” Beussman**

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April 10, 2015

Honorable Senator D. Scott Dibble  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Capitol, Room 111  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206

Senator Dibble:

Greetings from New Ulm, Minnesota, the city that has been waiting for about half a century to be connected to a *safe* roadway from New Ulm to Rochester – Rochester to New Ulm.

It was my desire to testify in person when this issue came before your committee; however, due to the death of one of our IT staff whose funeral is Monday, I feel it is my duty to be present. Also, as Chaplin of New Ulm Area Comrades of Valor Honor Guard, I felt the need to also be present for his grave side service. I hope you understand.

What the citizens of New Ulm, Courtland, Nicollet, and every city from New Ulm to Rochester need is money for planning. Highway 14 has never been finished because the planning—right of way acquisition and early engineering—has never been funded. Doctors and staff from the Mayo Clinic staff the office and Hospital in Springfield. How do they get to their destination? That is just one of many issues that we face every day. Promises remain unfunded. Two bridges need to be replaced in New Ulm and a dangerous intersection at U.S. Highway 14/ MN 15 has been given study money to design a safe interchange. Our citizenry started to feel a bit of hope that maybe New Ulm was being considered as a place where Minnesota could grow and increase the economy of this great state. New Ulm is constantly being overlooked as a destination for *new* industry, expansion of industries, because of the two lane roadway.

What we need is funding for the planning, purchasing of Right of Way, and completion of an expanded four lane roadway from New Ulm to Rochester – from Rochester to New Ulm.

Thank you for your work for improving the safety of this important Minnesota Corridor.

Robert J. Beussman, Mayor of New Ulm  
President, U.S. Highway #14 Partnership