

## **2021 State of Minnesota Legislative Priorities**

The I-94 West Corridor Coalition comprises businesses, individuals, and government agencies committed to improving I-94 and its support facilities. Short- and long-term improvements to I-94 will generate economic benefits, improve freight and passenger car mobility, and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

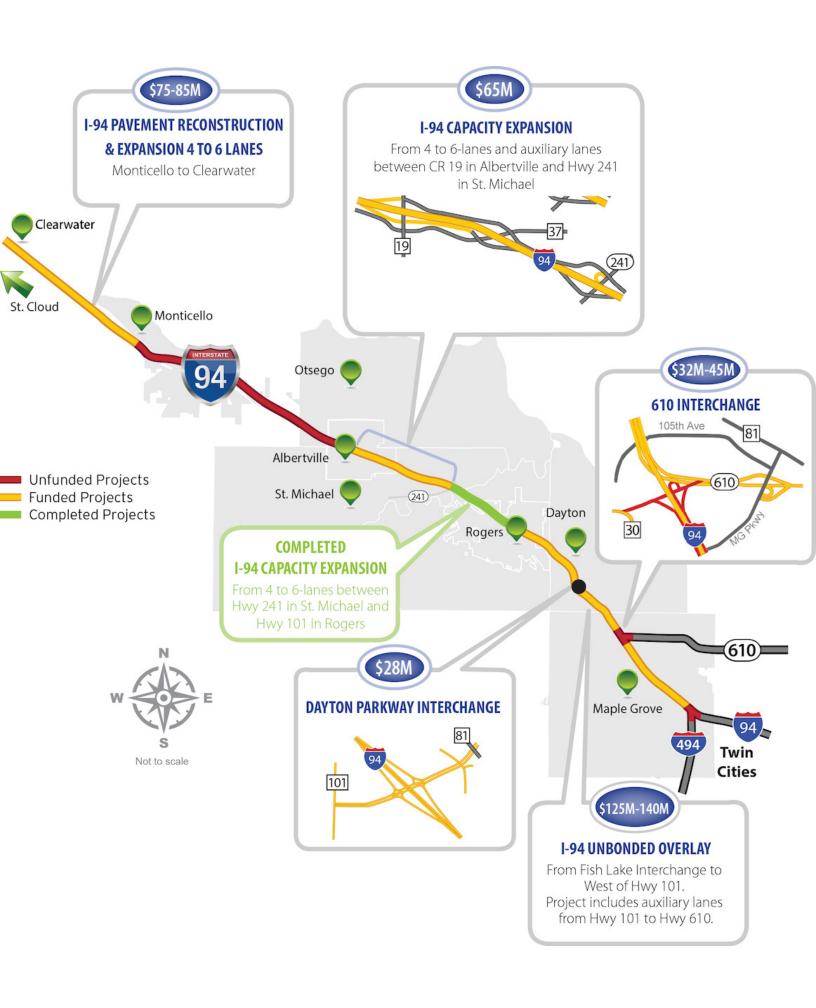
The mission of the Coalition is to provide a strong, united voice to advocate for and address transportation concerns along the I-94 corridor, from Maple Grove to St. Cloud. Our growing communities require foresight, planning, and relentless advocacy to ensure that Central Minnesota's transportation needs are not forgotten.

Achieving these goals will require that projects currently funded but unfinished will receive the nearly \$400 million allocated in a timely fashion to ensure they are completed. These funded but unfinished priority projects along the I-94 West Corridor include:

- Completion of Highway 610 in Maple Grove that connects I-94 and County Road 30 in Maple Grove
- Added lanes between Highway 610 in Maple Grove to Highway 101 in Rogers
- A new I-94 Interchange at Dayton Parkway (aka Brockton) in Dayton
- Added Lanes and improved interchanges between Highway 241 in St. Michael and County Hwy 37/19 in Albertville
- Added lanes between Highway 25 in Monticello and Highway 24 in Clearwater

We will continue to work towards our mission by asking MnDOT to reapply for the I-94 4 to 6 Lane Expansion Gap Removal Project I-94 West Corridor Coalition BUILD Grant Project Applications and assist in securing Federal USDOT Agency support/selection for these applications.

The I-94 West Corridor Coalition expects that all decisions relating to transportation funding will be based on factual analysis in a fair and transparent manner with an emphasis on reducing congestion caused by freight and commuter traffic on I-94. Any project selection process should be valued based on ROI and merit.





The Honorable Scott Newman Minnesota Senate 3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg. St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Newman & Members of the Senate Transportation & Policy Committee:

On behalf of the I-94 West Corridor Coalition, this letter is written in support of Senate File 392 – Interstate 94 expansion - Appropriation and Trunk Highway Bond Sale - on Interstate 94 (I-94), between Albertville and Monticello, in Wright County, Minnesota.

I-94 is a critical corridor that moves traffic across the upper Midwest, and in Minnesota links the Twin Cities Metropolitan area with the northern and western parts of the state. The ability of this artery to handle capacity efficiently and safely is key to Minnesota's vitality. The completion of the Albertville to Monticello Expansion Project is crucial for enhanced economic development, increased safety, an improved quality of life, and increased freight mobility.

The lane capacity expansion completion of Phase 1, from Rogers to St. Michael, has resulted in a 55% reduction in travel delay time through this stretch of road, close to 3 million square feet (about the area of a large shopping mall) of new industrial development, and approximately \$6.2 million in annual property tax increase. We expect for the Albertville to Monticello project to produce comparable results.

The current I-94 project will convert I-94 to a six-lane facility between Albertville and Monticello. This project is one of the last steps in completing the six-lane freeway expansion west of the Twin Cities. This project will provide lane continuity between projects currently in construction east of Albertville and west of Monticello scheduled for completion in the fall of 2021. The project will also reconfigure the entrance and exit ramps at the MN ROAD test facility. The project is ready for design and construction.

Over the years, significant investment has been made at all levels—federal, state, county, and city in the I-94 West Corridor. We thank you for your support of these important projects. We ask for your continued support for the expansion from Albertville to Monticello, a major corridor that has a substantial impact on the I-94 corridor, northwest metro, Twin Cities region, and the State of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Steve Bot Chair



March 3, 2021

Minnesota State Senate
Transportation Finance & Policy Committee

Chair Newman & Members of the Transportation Finance & Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation's Board of Directors and investors, we are providing this letter of support for Senate File 392 – Interstate 94 expansion - Appropriation and Trunk Highway Bond Sale - on Interstate 94 (I-94), between Albertville and Monticello, in Wright County, Minnesota.

I-94 is a critical corridor that moves traffic across the upper Midwest, and in Minnesota links the Twin Cities Metropolitan area with the northern and western parts of the state, including the greater St. Cloud region. The ability of this artery to handle capacity efficiently and safely is key to Minnesota's vitality. The completion of the Albertville to Monticello Expansion Project is crucial for enhanced economic development, increased safety, an improved quality of life, and increased freight mobility.

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392 which will support critical infrastructure investment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Brian Myres** 

**GSDC** Board Chair

**Patti Gartland** 

Patti Gartland

GSDC President

## **About the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation:**

The Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation is a non-profit (501c3) collaboration of more than 250 regional public and private organizations in Central Minnesota. The GSDC is leading a community-wide commitment to harness the vast resources of the region, facilitate community, education, and business collaboration, expand the talent base, spearhead economic development efforts, and make the greater St. Cloud area one of the best places to live, work and play. The GSDC is funded through business investor contributions, personal contributions and grants, and all actions are self-governed by the organization's investors, boards and various committees. Learn more at <a href="https://www.greaterstcloud.com">www.greaterstcloud.com</a>.



Thursday, March 4, 2021

Minnesota State Senate
Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jillian Hendrickson

Mayor of Albertville

Cc: Council and Administrator

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MINNESOTA STATE SENATE
TRANSPORTATION FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE
3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

CHAIR NEWMAN & MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE:

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Berge Director of Quality Assurance

KING SOLUTIONS, INC.

11011 HOLLY LANE N // DAYTON, MN 55369 763.428.5464 (KING) // KINGSOLUTIONSGLOBAL.COM



March 4, 2021

Minnesota State Senate
Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
3105 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Newman and members of the Transportation Finance & Policy Committee:

This letter is in support of Senate File 392 – Interstate 94 expansion - Appropriation and Trunk Highway Bond Sale - on Interstate 94 (I-94) between Albertville and Monticello in Wright County, Minnesota.

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Steffenson

Mayor

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Minnesota State Senate Transportation Finance & Policy Committee 3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg. St. Paul, MN 55155

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marcy Anderson
Executive Director
Monticello Chamber of Commerce & Industry
763-295-2700



Thursday, March 4, 2021

Minnesota State Senate
Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven G. Bot, P.E.

City Administrator/Public Works Director



Administration Department 10 2nd St. NW, Room 235 Buffalo, MN 55313

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Thursday, March 4, 2021

Minnesota State Senate
Transportation Finance & Policy Committee
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St. Paul, MN 55155

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We urge members of the Senate Transportation Committee to support S.F. 392. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lee Kelly,

Wright County Administrator