

Kip Harrington, Division Manager
Department of Community Development
Long Range Planning

Phone: 605-394-4120
Email: kip.harrington@rcgov.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization Committee Members

FROM: Kip Harrington, Division Manager

DATE: February 3, 2025

RE: **25TP002 – Letter of Support for the New Underwood Road Reconstruction RAISE Grant Application**

The South Dakota Department of Transportation has submitted an application to the United States Department of Transportation RAISE Grant program for a planning grant in support of the reconstruction of New Underwood Road east of Rapid City. This planning grant will fund the preliminary engineering and environmental study for the future reconstruction of New Underwood Road from SD 34 south to Interstate 90 which is 32 miles long.

The future project will include reconstruction of 17.4 miles, the replacement of pipe culverts, and the replacement of three bridges. The total cost of the planning project is estimated at \$3 million and is scheduled to begin upon the award of the grant. SDDOT is seeking a RAISE grant for 80 percent of the cost of the project (\$2.4 million) and the remaining 20 percent (\$600,000) will be split between SDDOT (\$300,000) and Meade County (\$300,000). SDDOT will be utilizing State Highway Trust Fund dollars while Meade County will be utilizing funding from the County General Fund to accommodate the local share.

This rural section of New Underwood Road provides a vital link for residents of eastern Meade County to Interstate 90 and nearby Rapid City. The estimated date of completion for the project is Fall of 2029.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the Letter of Support for the New Underwood Road Reconstruction RAISE Grant Application