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United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
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AND URBAN AFFAIRS
BUDGET

March 1, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy,

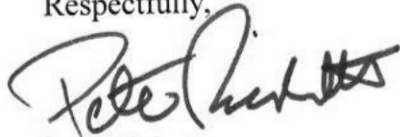
I write to request your consideration for the U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Bridge Program application for \$7,440,000 submitted by the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT).

NDOT seeks to replace two bridges on Nebraska Highway 8 in Richardson County. These bridges, located just east of Salem and west of Falls City, are vital to the region's infrastructure. The 70-year-old bridges, considered obsolete due to their weight and width limitations, need to be replaced due to the deteriorating conditions.

The first bridge, east of Salem, crosses the north fork of the Big Nemaha River. The second bridge, at the western corporate limits of Falls City, crosses over the Union Pacific railroad track. Both bridges are essential for adjacent communities, agriculture, and industry because they support critical routes for transporting products to major markets like Kansas City, Topeka, Lincoln, and Omaha which are all within a 90-minute radius. Highway 8 sees annual average daily traffic of nearly 900 vehicles in Salem and 2,000 in Falls City with truck traffic making up approximately 7% of that volume.

I ask that you please give all due and fair consideration, in accordance with all rules and regulations, to NDOT's grant application for the U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Bridge Program grant. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Trinity Chappelle in my Omaha office; she may be reached by phone at (b)(6) or by email at Trinity_Chappelle@ricketts.senate.gov.

Respectfully,



Pete Ricketts
United States Senator