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Bloomington Burnsville Dakota County Elko New Market Hennepin County Lakeville  
Minneapolis Richfield Savage Scott County

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Dear Chairs Dibble, Koznick and Koegel, and Members Olson, Tabke, Johnson-Stewart, Carlson, Clark and Jasinski of the Conference Committee on HF 2438, the Transportation Finance Omnibus Bill,

The I-35W Solutions Alliance shares our sincere gratitude to you for your dedication to public service and your efforts to finalize the transportation budget this legislative session.

We strongly support the \$40.8M for the I-35W and CSAH 50 interchange in Dakota County, a priority project for the Alliance, found in Article 1, Section 8 of the House language and we urge you to include the funding for this interchange in the conference committee report.

The 35/50 interchange is utilized by over 110,000 vehicles per day with an estimated additional 30,000 vehicles expected in the not-too-distant future. The interchange's critical crash rate is 4 times higher than the state average illustrating the urgent need for action to protect the safety of those in the region.

A May 2024 study by the Minnesota Department of Transportation confirmed the necessity of the project, citing the intense congestion at peak hours as well as the heightened crash rate. The engagement activities conducted throughout the study also highlight the safety concerns from community members across the entire south metro region.

We thank you for your dedication to bipartisan solutions throughout this year's legislative process and your consideration of this vital regional improvement.

The Solutions Alliance includes Bloomington, Burnsville, Dakota County, Elko New Market, Hennepin County, Lakeville, Minneapolis, Richfield, Savage, and Scott County as well partners including MNDOT, MVTA, Metro Transit, and the Met Council. We support the funding, building, operating, and maintenance of a transportation system that reduces congestion and improves safety.

Please let me or any of us know if we can be of assistance on the work ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Workman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Liz Workman  
Chair, I-35W Solutions Alliance

Cc: I-35W Solutions Alliance Members