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TO: School Board Members

FROM: Superintendent Peter Olson-Skog

DATE: February 3, 2025

RE: Approval of Letter of Support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Application for Funding

**BACKGROUND:**

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has reached out to request the school district's support for the MnDOT Highway 13 Slope Stability Planning Project in their application for grant funding under the Federal Highway Administration's FY 2024-2025 Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) program. The Highway 13 Slope Stability Planning Project will study ongoing slope failures and develop long-term solutions that improve the resilience of Highway 13 to withstand the changing climate. The planning study will focus on Highway 13, located between 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and Annapolis St. in Dakota County, where slope slides have caused road closures, lengthy detours, and expensive emergency repairs.

A letter of support from the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights Eagan Area Schools will benefit MnDOT's application's overall competitiveness by demonstrating support among impacted stakeholders. Attached is a letter of support and more details about the project and its potential benefits to ISD 197.

**RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** by the School Board of School District 197 to approve the letter of support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Highway 13 Slope Stability Project in their application for grant funding.