

Testimony Prepared for the  
**Senate Transportation Committee**  
January 17, 2025  
By: Dan Schriock, Burleigh County Asst. Engineer



**RE: Support of SB 2142 – Relating to township road and bridge sustainability funding**

Chairman Clemens and Senate Transportation Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2142. I am Dan Schriock, Burleigh County Assistant Engineer, and I also serve on the legislative committee for the ND Association of County Engineers. I am here to support the bill, with an additional request on behalf of county highway departments.

In 2019, the North Dakota Legislature requested a study of the transportation infrastructure needs of all counties, townships, and tribes in the state. The Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI) at the North Dakota State University completed the 2024 Highway and Bridge Needs Study. In Burleigh County alone the estimated cost for county and township unpaved roads, paved highways, and bridges for 2024-2043 is \$354 million. This includes approximately \$167 million for county gravel roads, \$180 million for county paved roads, and \$7 million for county bridges and minor structures. Much of which will be needed in the next 10 years.

Burleigh County and the other counties across North Dakota are in dire need for long term funding solutions to better plan and prioritize our local road and bridge projects. Increases in local funding through this bill are critical to provide the infrastructure necessary to haul goods and services across our transportation network, but also to provide safer roads to our traveling public.

Chairman Clemens and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and request your consideration to include counties in this funding bill.