

Chairman Clemens and Members of the Transportation Committee,

Manns Township is writing to express our support for SB2391 and urge your committee to vote in favor with a “do pass.” County Road 62 (CR62) is an important stretch of road that consists of gravel and pavement traveling north and south through our township. We are convinced that the adoption of CR62 by the ND state highway system will allow it to get the much needed attention and repair to address its deteriorating condition. Furthermore, as the road continues to worsen it has forced Stutsman County to close a section of CR62 which has detoured heavy truck traffic on our township roads and caused damage that has been costly.

In 2022 and 2023 Manns Township spent \$36,700 on road repairs to 91st Ave SE, located 4 miles west of CR62. The expense to this section of single road amounts to 34% of actual revenue brought in by Manns Township. These repair projects on 91st Ave were submitted to the state to be considered for FLEX Funding and were not selected as a project to receive grant funding. We feel we have exhausted our options which leads us to SB2391 for your consideration. This stretch of township road is an alternate route for truck traffic to get to the Spiritwood Energy Park when CR62 becomes impassable or gets closed due to poor road conditions. Our township cannot continue to afford spending our limited resources on repairing this stretch of road, because of this we have been forced to neglect other repairs and maintenance in our township. We believe that this burden can be better absorbed by the state highway system which has the necessary resources and experience to handle, improve and maintain this section of critical infrastructure. This will allow Manns Township to allocate our resources appropriately in order to maintain our current gravel roads.

Please consider supporting SB2391 with a “do pass.” Your support in this bill will positively affect our rural residents with safer, quality roads that serve our end users at the Spiritwood Energy Park.

Regards,


Lynn Boom, Chairman

Manns Township Supervisor