



North Dakota Soybean Growers Association  
4852 Rocking Horse Circle South, Fargo, ND 58104  
(701) 566-9300 | [www.ndsoygrowers.com](http://www.ndsoygrowers.com)

February 3, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As a representative of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association (NDSGA), I am writing in support of Cass County's application for funding through the FY2023 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Transportation Grants program.

The NDSGA represents more than 10,000 soybean producers in the state. Transportation of about 200 million bushels of soybeans, in more than 220,000 truckloads, to market, is critical to the continued success of our industry and the value-added industries under construction.

The Cass County Highway 4 and 10 Reconstruction Project focuses on a stretch of County Highway 4 between County Highways 11 and North Dakota Highway 18, along with County Highway 10 between County Highway 5 and the City of Tower City/Barnes County line that incurs a substantial traffic load. These roads cannot continue operating as such without grading and surfacing improvements to ensure continued mobility and safety.

The Cass County Highway 4 and 10 Reconstruction calls for a total reconstruction of the area, including grading, culvert replacement, flood damage prevention improvements, and paving. The project would also widen and pave the shoulder beyond the current shallow gravel line, would lower the slope to NDDOT acceptable standard, enhance safety, and improve bicycle/pedestrian use.

This project will substantially improve local, regional, and national multimodal transportation, and exhibits all the factors of local and national significance. This project reflects needs documented in both local, regional, and statewide plans to support improved safety and mobility. The reconstruction included in this project will improve connectivity on the National Highway System and allow high volumes of automobile traffic, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit vehicles to safely move through the junction of these highways. It will also enhance truck access to major agricultural commodity processing or storage sites located in central Cass County.

For these reasons, a RAISE grant will help Cass County and the state of North Dakota. Thank you for your consideration and approval of this application.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kasey J. Bitz".

**Kasey J. Bitz**  
**NDSGA President**