

December 17, 2018

Charles Grotte
Otter Tail County Highway Engineer
505 South Court Street, Suite 1
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Mr. Grotte,

As the Superintendent of Pelican Rapids Schools, it is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Otter Tail County's Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail Transportation Alternatives grant application. The trail extends along Highway 59 from Pelican Rapids to County Highway 3 in Perham.

This is an important project for Pelican Rapids Schools because it will provide easier access to the community by:

- Creating a nonmotorized seamless trail from the east to the west for students, staff and community to access.
- Providing nonmotorized access to lakes and a state park allowing people to connect to destinations and to recreational opportunities without motorized transportation.
- Supporting the growing populations of lower income and culturally diverse people through access to transportation and recreational trails that are often not equitably available to all populations.

The project aligns with state and regional transportation goals and plans. Otter Tail County has an established 2015 Master Trail Plan in place. This is a well-developed project that has had adequate preparation.

- This would be a turning point for our community and allow us to become a Bike able community.
- This could bring opportunity for economic development within our business community, opportunities for summer employment for our students.
- Increase tourism, thus an economic benefit for the community of Pelican.
- Provide safe nonmotorized transportation between communities for our students, and families of Pelican Rapids.

We are confident that the Perham to Pelican Rapids Trail will provide tremendous benefit to our community and to the public. We support the Perham to Pelican Rapids Trail and commend the many benefits. We respectfully ask the review committee to approve this grant.

Sincerely,

Randi Anderson
Superintendent Pelican Rapids Schools