



April 3, 2024

Mayor Dave Kleis
City of St. Cloud, Minnesota
400 2nd Street South
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301

Subject: Heatherwood Road Extension Project Funding Request

Mayor Kleis,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Heatherwood Road Connection Project. As the CEO & President of the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation (GSDC), I am keenly aware of the importance of infrastructure enhancements on our regional economy.

The Heatherwood Road Connection Project consists of a Heatherwood Road extension between County Road 75 and I94/Opportunity Drive to ease traffic congestion, improve safety and access. The project will also replace critical infrastructure including road, trail, utilities, and bridge elements.

We are supportive of this application given the significant impact to our communities and adjacent businesses and land owners. The project will provide economic growth for the region, it would increase efficiency of delivery of supplies, increase the reliability of sewer services thereby fostering private development.

Please consider this letter an endorsement of the City's funding request for the Heatherwood Road improvements.

Sincerely,

NeTia Bauman

NeTia Bauman, CEcD
CEO & President
Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation



April 8, 2024

Mayor Dave Kleis
City of St. Cloud, Minnesota
400 2nd Street South
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301

Mayor Kleis,

The Stearns County Parks Commission and the Stearns County Parks Department are writing to express our support for the Heatherwood Road Extension Project.

The Heatherwood Road Extension project includes critical community connections of road, trail (alternative transportation and recreational), utilities, and bridge elements. The completion of this project will not only have a significant local impact, but a regional and national impact as well. The completion of this project will bring trail users (local, regional Beaver Island Trail and the National Mississippi River Trail) off busy roads onto a separated trail designated for non-motorized use.

Stearns County recently completed construction of a 3.5-mile section of the Beaver Island non-motorized, alternative transportation and recreational trail; and the City of St. Cloud recently constructed trail from the Anderson Trucking Maintenance Facility to the intersection of 8th Avenue South and 60th Street South. However, there is still a gap between the existing city's portions of the Beaver Island Trail (McStop area to Opportunity Drive).

The Stearns County Parks Department has been contacted by many residents of the County and the City inquiring about when the final uncompleted connection (Heatherwood Road Extension) will be completed. Thus, we are expressing the county and community's great interest in and encouragement to complete the missing trail and road segment for local and regional recreational and commuting use.

This letter serves as an endorsement of the City's funding request for the Heatherwood Road improvements.

Sincerely,

Margaret Arnold
Chair
Stearns County Parks Commission

Ben Anderson
Parks Director
Stearns County Park Department





ARCHITECTURE
+ ENGINEERING

CONSTRUCTION
MANAGEMENT

FIELD SERVICES

MAINTENANCE

REAL ESTATE
+ BROKERAGE

DEVELOPMENT

April 3rd, 2024

Mayor Dave Kleis
City of St. Cloud, Minnesota
400 2nd Street South
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301

**RE: Heatherwood Road Extension
Project Funding Request**

Mayor Kleis,

We would like to express our deep support for the City of St. Cloud’s request for federal funds to connect Heatherwood Road with I94 and its critical infrastructure.

The Heatherwood Road Project consists of a Heatherwood Road extension between County Road 75 and I94/Opportunity Drive to ease traffic congestion, improve safety and access. The project will also replace critical infrastructure including road, trail, utilities, and bridge elements.

Our company has owned and developed multiple properties along Heatherwood Road between County Road 75 and I94/ Opportunity Drive. Providing a connection between Heatherwood Road and Opportunity Drive will continue to allow the area’s development to thrive and support hundreds, if not thousands of jobs. We are supportive of this application given the significant impact to our communities and adjacent businesses and land owners. We have a number of potential developments that can benefit from this connection, and are in full support of the city’s request.

Please submit this support letter along with the City’s funding request for the Heatherwood Road improvements.

Sincerely,

RICE COMPANIES, INC.

Christopher J. Rice, President & CEO

