



# COUNTY OF STEARNS

## *Office of the Commissioners*

Administration Center Rm 121 • 705 Courthouse Square • St. Cloud, MN 56303  
320-656-3601 • Fax 320-656-6393 • [StearnsCountyMN.gov](http://StearnsCountyMN.gov)

March 7, 2023

Congressman Tom Emmer  
315 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Trunk Highway 23/Bel Clare Drive CDS Application

Dear Congressman Emmer:

The Trunk Highway 23/Bel Clare Drive reduced conflict intersection project is Stearns County's priority on the Highway 23 Coalition's short list of priority projects. This intersection serves a significant amount of freight and agricultural traffic, as well as commuter traffic from the southwest portion of the St. Cloud area. There have been many near misses at the intersection, and the potential for serious crashes is high given the 65 mph posted speed limit along this portion of Trunk Highway 23. Construction of a reduced conflict intersection (or J-turns) at this intersection would greatly improve safety for Stearns County motorists.

Stearns County fully supports the Highway 23 Coalition's application for a reduced conflict intersection at this location, and encourages you to fund the request. Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me at [joseph.perske@co.stearns.mn.us](mailto:joseph.perske@co.stearns.mn.us) with any questions.

Sincerely,

Joe Perske, Chair  
Stearns County Board of Commissioners