



## National Association of Minority Contractors- Wisconsin Chapter

February 1, 2021

RE: I-94 EAST – WEST CORRIDOR PROJECT

Dear Governor Evers,

The National Association of Minority Contractors, Wisconsin Chapter (NAMC) is a national non-profit trade association established in 1969 to address the needs and concerns of minority contractors. NAMC provides information, promotes strategic relationships and acts as a liaison for procurement opportunities in the construction industry, both vertical and horizontal construction. Our mission is to promote the success of Wisconsin minority contractors. In this mission, we write to you in strong support of the I-94 East-West project to upgrade this unsafe and inefficient portion of interstate.

Built almost 60 years ago, this segment of interstate is in dire need of modernization. According to WisDOT, the East-West corridor is Wisconsin's busiest section of interstate with up to 160,000 vehicles travelling it per day. Unfortunately, it is also unsafe with a crash average that is three to four times higher than the state average. Anyone who has driven this segment is familiar with the congestion, outdated design, deteriorated pavement, and aging bridges. Improving safety and reducing congestion on this vital Interstate is essential for Milwaukee and the entire state.

NAMC strongly supports enumeration of the I 94 East-West project for the reasons above, but also because of the project's potential to deliver jobs for minority-owned contractors. This project is expected to deliver between **\$100,000,000 to \$115,000,000** of contracts to small, minority and woman owned businesses through WisDOT's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.

Given the current economic climate, this project is essential to the success of our member's minority-owned businesses and to provide our community with high quality, family supporting, jobs in bridge and ironwork, landscaping, pavement marking, sawing, traffic control, supplies, signage, electrical work, trucking, inspection, and more.

Our Members strongly encourage support and funding of this essential project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ugo Nwagbaraocha  
President  
NAMC, Wisconsin Chapter

CC: Secretary-designee Craig Thompson, WisDOT