February 19, 2026

ARROWHEAD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Board of Directors

Resolution

Resolution of Support for the CSAH 100 (Main Street) Railroad Crossing Grade Separation Project BUILD Grant Funding Application

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §462.383, subdivision 2, and 462.39, subdivision 3, authorizes Regional Development Commissions (RDCs) to work with and on behalf of local units of government to develop plans or implement programs to address economic, social, physical and governmental concerns and to develop comprehensive plans for local units of government; and

WHEREAS, CSAH 100 (Main St) has a high-impact railroad crossing, identified as USDOT #252305T, located in the City of Aurora, which includes an estimated 12 trains per day and 4,400 vehicles per day, where if this railroad crossing were closed, the detour would be greater than 18 miles which includes gravel surfaced roads; and

WHEREAS, the St. Louis County Railroad Crossing Safety Plan prioritized this railroad crossing by recommending construction of a bridge overpass on CSAH 100 (Main Street) over the railroad grade; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County completed the CSAH 100 Corridor Study in 2024 that developed a new corridor layout of CSAH 100 (3rd Avenue North/Main Street) through the City of Aurora which included a feasibility study that shows a bridge overpass over this railroad grade is feasible and cost effective; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County, in cooperation with the City of Aurora, is leading a project in 2026 to reconstruct the CSAH 100 corridor beginning at a point 0.20 mile east of MNTH 135 and ending at 1st Avenue North which will implement the recommendations from the CSAH 100 Corridor Study; and

WHEREAS, a bridge overpass would improve mobility for CSAH 100 which includes the movement of freight, recreational vehicles (ATVs and snowmobiles), bicyclists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, a bridge overpass would improve traffic safety by eliminating a railroad crossing which supports the Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths vision; and

WHEREAS, a bridge overpass would eliminate the risk of a railroad crossing closure and the impact on the regional transportation system due to the long detour route; and

WHEREAS, a bridge overpass would support the planned extension of the Mesabi Trail from Aurora to Hoyt Lakes and movement of ATVs and snowmobiles throughout the eastern Iron Range; and

WHEREAS, as the primary highway connecting the cities of Aurora and Hoyt Lakes and other communities in the eastern Iron Range, it is critical to ensure that CSAH 100 is a reliable transportation corridor; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County is seeking funding for the CSAH 100 (Main Street) Railroad Crossing Grade Separation Project through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program which is a grant program included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission Board of Directors supports St. Louis County's funding application to the BUILD Grant Program to provide funding for the CSAH 100 (Main Street) Railroad Crossing Grade Separation Project.

ATTEST:

Henry Horlie
ARDC Chair

Executive Director

ARDC Officer

2-19-2026
Date