

Josh Olson, PE/Apex Engineering Group  
4733 Amber Valley Parkway South  
Fargo, ND 58104

Dear Mr. Olson,

I wish to indicate my complete opposition to the proposal by DOT to eliminate half of the access points to the City of Michigan as part of the US Highway 2/Michigan Bypass-Westbound project.

As I recall the work that the North Dakota Legislature did last session and previous sessions, I don't think any of us saw this type of proposal coming. When you spend hundreds of millions of dollars and even billions of dollars on highways, bridges and infrastructure in our great state you would think that projects would make things better for local citizens, not worse.

I know you have received numerous letters, e-mails and other comments from citizens, elected officials and others who live in this area who are opposed to this proposal. There is no doubt, in their minds or mine, that the proposal will create hazard conditions and safety issues for the people of that area.

They make very valid arguments about the concerns they have regarding their needs for the ambulance and fire equipment. I also agree fully with their arguments on how this change will negatively affect agriculture in that area. As you know agriculture is the life-blood of small towns and hampering the movement of equipment in any manner will create serious problems and safety issues.

I also understand this proposal will consolidate school traffic from at least three access points into two, which is another safety issues for them. Increasing the traffic numbers in the two remaining points would, in my opinion, put the lives of the people of the Michigan area at greater risk. As their legislator, I implore you to reconsider your proposal and keep the four access points in place.

As the City of Michigan has correctly pointed out, a much better and safer alternative would be to provide turning lanes for the four existing access points during the project.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this vital decision. The local people and the local elected officials they have put in place to speak for them are in a much better position than anyone in Grand Forks, Fargo or Bismarck to know what is best for them. Let us listen to them and keep the four access points open. It is the right thing to do for everyone concerned.

Sincerely yours,

*Bill*

**Rep. Bill Devlin**

**Speaker**

North Dakota House of Representatives  
Finley, ND - District 23

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