



**Joint Committee on Appropriations**  
SENATOR LARRY TIDEMANN, LEAD CO-CHAIR  
REPRESENTATIVE DAVID ANDERSON, CO-CHAIR

March 27, 2017

Mr. Darin Bergquist, Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
700 E Broadway Ave  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Secretary Bergquist:

With the approval of the General Operations and Construction Contracts budgets in SB178, the General Appropriations Act for FY2018, questions were raised regarding the planning and management processes for bids and construction projects. The Committee requests that the Department of Transportation present the following information at an interim meeting to be determined:

- What is the process for selecting and prioritizing construction projects?
- How has this process changed with the additional revenue generated from SB1 enacted in the 2015 Session?
- How were the additional funds from SB1 spent?
- What processes are used by the Department to manage construction projects and the bidding process?
- What process is used for selecting contractors and letting construction projects to contract?  
Are contractors located in South Dakota given any preference?

Thank you for your cooperation.

/s/ Senator Tidemann  
Senator Larry Tidemann  
Lead Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

/s/ Representative Anderson  
Representative David Anderson  
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General  
Liza Clark, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management  
Ron Rosenboom, Chairman, Transportation Commission