

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
101 S. Webster Street
Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

Tony Evers, Governor
Preston D. Cole, Secretary
Telephone 608-266-2621
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463
TTY Access via relay - 711



June 21, 2021

Mark Abeles-Allison
Bayfield County Administrator
117 E 6th Street
Washburn WI 54891

Subject: Letter of Support for DOT RAISE Grant Support and Potential Electrical Vehicle Charging Station at the Barnes Ranger Station Facility

Dear Mr. Abeles-Allison:

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has provided a letter of support to the U.S. Department of Transportation for Bayfield County, Wisconsin's application for your requested RAISE grant that would provide funding needed to improve County Highway N and County Highway A in SW Bayfield County, to provide local forest industry year round access to county forest lands, and increase the overall safety, and provide an electric vehicle charging station. This project is directly aligned with the WI DNR-Division of Forestry's purpose, to work in partnership to protect and sustainably manage Wisconsin forests and ecosystems to supply a wide range of ecological, economic, and social benefits for the present and future generations.

In addition to the letter of support of this grant, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource- Division of Forestry would also consider exploring the feasibility and potential partnership for the Electric Vehicle Charging Station at our Barnes Ranger Station facility located at 52820 State Highway 27, in Barnes, WI. The current facility may provide an excellent location for the charging station with direct access to both State Highway 27 and County Highway N, the western boundary of your project area.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources- Division of Forestry has a longstanding working relationship with Bayfield County and has entered into other successful agreements in the past, including the infrastructure lease agreement for shared storage of our fire control equipment in Washburn, MOU's for fire suppression assistance, and several large scale habitat projects with our Wildlife program. Please contact us for further discussion if this project is funded and moves forward.

As always, we look forward to continuing to work together with Bayfield County to serve the citizens of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Matthew Blaylock
Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources

Acting-NW District Forestry Leader