



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Montemurro, President/CEO
262-634-1931, mjmontemurro@racinechamber.com

Racine Business Community Calls for the Completion of I-94 North-South
Resulting economic development would benefit region and state

RACINE, WI, April 21, 2017 – Finishing the reconstruction of I-94 North-South – a transportation backbone connecting Milwaukee and Chicago – is long overdue says the Racine Area Manufacturers & Commerce (RAMAC).

“We have watched the number of new businesses relocating to Kenosha where the interstate has been rebuilt and expanded, and we believe Racine is poised to undergo the same kind of economic boom,” said Matt Montemurro, RAMAC President and CEO. “It is time to finish the job.”

The I-94 North-South corridor was built in the late 1950s and 1960s. Increased traffic congestion, safety issues, pavement and design deficiencies, and three prior resurfacings necessitate expansion and full reconstruction. This was begun in 2009 starting north of the state line in Kenosha and heading south from the Mitchell Interchange. However, the project was delayed in 2011, leaving areas with more than 50-year-old interstate.

Companies looking at locations for new facilities consistently rank highway access near the top of their list of priorities. This is particularly true for businesses considering the DeBack Farms Business Park under development on Highway K near I-94 in Caledonia. Prospective businesses want to know the status of the I-94 North-South project, which includes reconstruction of the Highway K interchange.

“Finishing the I-94 North-South project is directly linked to the success and growth of my company and the broader Racine business community,” said Dave Eberle, owner of Norco Manufacturing. “Completion of the project enables me to reliably move products, and plan for future growth. It is time for the state to set a completion date for the reconstruction of the North-South project.”

“The state has made significant investments in the corridor,” concluded Montemurro. “But without completing the project and eliminating the gaps, Wisconsin is not getting the full benefit of those investments. On behalf of the Racine business community, we are calling on the legislature to keep this project on track and to set a final completion date.”

About the Racine Area Manufactures and Commerce:

RAMAC is Racine’s Business Champion serving as a voice representing the common interests of every organization in Racine - small and large, industrial and retail, for profit and nonprofit. In support of its broad and diverse membership base, RAMAC offers a variety of pro-business and pro-community programs and initiatives. These programs aim to improve the business climate and vitality of the greater Racine area. Visit www.racinechamber.com.