



March 15, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: TIGER IV Discretionary Grant: Minot International Airport, Minot, North Dakota

Dear Mr. LaHood,

On behalf of the Minot Convention and Visitors Bureau I am writing to you to support the application of the Minot International Airport and their Access Road Project to assist with the infrastructure needed to expand the main road access to/from the Airport Terminal Building.

This project is important to the economic development of the community, creating safe pedestrian infrastructure, local transit access, and improved service access for all vehicle traffic; and funding by the TIGER Grant will assist in making this possible.

If funded, the project would widen and realign the Airport's main access road to accommodate increased passenger traffic to the new and expanded airport terminal building. Total passengers have increased dramatically from 144,204 in 2009 to 306,403 in 2011 (112% increase in two years) caused by the tremendous economic growth of Northwest North Dakota due to Bakken Oil formation and the numerous Canadian visitors to our community. This growth trend is expected to continue for many more years and local funding sources are not able finance the complete infrastructure needed to support the economic expansion.

I am requesting that you please consider the City of Minot's request for grant funding of this project.

Sincerely,

Wendy Howe
Executive Director