

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. Secretary,

This letter conveys State Rep. Andrew Maragos' support for the Minot International Airports Access Road Project, for which the City of Minot requests \$3,650,500 in TIGER IV grant funding. Federal funds will be combined with a 40% (\$1,460,200) non-federal match that has been committed to the project and dedicated to completing it. Funding for this project is vital to the economic development of the region, creating biking and walking infrastructure, local transit access, and improving safety service access for all vehicle traffic.

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 in the near future. Total passengers have increased dramatically from 144,204 in 2009 to 306,403 in 2011 (112% increase in two years) caused by the explosive regional economic growth. This growth trend will continue and local funding sources cannot fund the entire infrastructure needed to support the economic expansion.

As funding applications are evaluated, I hope you will carefully consider the project's many benefits.

Sincerely,

State Representative

Andrew Maragos

District 3

Minot, ND

(SIGNATURE BLOCK)