



NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Senator Randy Burckhard

District 5
1837 15th Street SW
Minot, ND 58701-6158
raburckhard@nd.gov

COMMITTEES:

Finance and Taxation
Natural Resources

March 15, 2012

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

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

My name is Randy Burckhard. I am a State Senator from Minot, N.D. I am writing this letter of support for the Minot International Airport's Access Road Project, for which the City of Minot is requesting \$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 Minot 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 144,000 in 2009 to 306,000 in 2011 (that's a 112% increase over a two year period) caused by the explosive regional economic impact. 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 would hope that you will carefully consider this project's many benefits.

Sincerely,

Randy A. Burckhard,
State Senator, District 5, Minot



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