



March 14, 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 Airport, Minot North Dakota

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The North Dakota Aeronautics Commission supports the City of Minot's TIGER IV application to fund the Access Road Project at the Minot International Airport (MOT). The MOT is currently experiencing growth that is almost unprecedented in U.S. history. This trend has been in place for the past 18 months and based upon 2012 published airline schedules, should contain through at least next year and into the future.

The rapid growth is forcing the Airport Commission to build a new terminal and add additional parking. The Access Road project which will cost \$3,650,500 is the first phase of the potentially \$95 million overall project. The city of Minot is requesting 60 percent of the project cost to be covered by TIGER IV funding. Supporting the project is important to the local, state and regional economic development that has experienced the rapid growth because of the oil and gas production in Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana.

This project would reconstruct an access road between the proposed terminal building location, along Airport Road, to the intersection of Highway 83 and Broadway to include the possibility for a four-lane road, transit access, and pedestrian and bike access to airport property. Federal funds would be used to widen and realign the Minot Airport access road to accommodate for an increase in traffic due to the large amount of population using the airport.

Thank you for your attention to this grant application. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any information to assist you in your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "LARRY TABORSKY".

Larry Taborsky, Director
North Dakota Aeronautics Commission