

July 21, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write to express my support for the TIGER II grant application submitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, to update and improve existing parkways in western Kentucky for the eventual path of U.S. Interstate 69 (I-69).

As you may know, portions of Kentucky's vast parkway system will be maximized to become the expanded I-69, a vital north-south transportation corridor connecting major river ports and airports through seven states from the Canadian to the Mexican borders.

Improving western Kentucky's existing parkways will move the I-69 project closer to completion, resulting in marked commercial, operational, and safety improvements for the commonwealth and the nation. Additionally, the completion of these improvements to the eventual I-69 corridor has the potential to improve many economically disadvantaged communities throughout the western Kentucky region.

I hope you will realize the importance of this project to Kentucky and give full and fair consideration to the application.

Sincerely,



MITCH McCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

MM/al

WENDELL H. FORD

UNITED STATES SENATE

1974-1999

July 28, 2010

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC 20590-0001

Secretary LaHood,

I ask you to strongly consider Kentucky's application for the TIGER II grant program to complete SIU5 of Interstate 69.

Kentucky's legislature recently committed more than \$50 million over the next two years to move forward eight projects along the corridor – all on existing parkways. KYTC's application for TIGER II funding would allow for the opening of about 75 miles, about half of the total mileage through the Commonwealth.

Kentucky's parkways are already part of the federal highway system, and making operational and safety improvements to upgrade them to I-69 status represents a major saving for tax payers.

One of those things we always look for, Ray, is more miles for less money and this is it.

Thank you for your consideration of Kentucky's TIGER II application for Interstate 69.

Sincerely,



Senator Wendell H. Ford

Copy: Governor Steve Beshear

ED WHITFIELD
1ST DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2411 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1701
(202) 225-3115
FAX: (202) 225-3547
www.house.gov/whitfield

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
COMMERCE, TRADE, AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1701

July 21, 2010

The Honorable Ray Lahood
Secretary
Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Lahood:

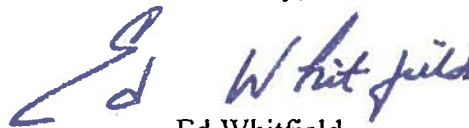
I am writing in strong support of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's TIGER II grant application to complete SIU5 of Interstate 69—operational and safety upgrades to the Pennyriple and Western Kentucky parkways.

I-69 runs exclusively in my Congressional District in Kentucky and is a vital missing piece in moving goods from the northern United States to the south. Upgrading the Pennyriple and Western Kentucky parkways for I-69 maximizes the use of the existing system at a fraction of the cost of building an all-new "green space" highway and at a substantial savings to taxpayers. The U.S. DOT has the opportunity to put SIU5 "over the top" and complete half of the total mileage of I-69 in Kentucky.

I-69 will be a huge economic boost for Kentucky. Seventeen of the nation's top 25 seaports will be directly connected to I-69. Fifteen of the nation's top 25 air cargo airports will be directly accessible to I-69. Studies show I-69 will return \$1.63 for every dollar invested. From Houston to Indianapolis, I-69 will create 27,000 jobs, add \$11 billion in wages and produce \$19 billion in value added through 2025. Additionally, there are more than 10.5 million people living below the poverty level in the seven I-69 states.

I am pleased that the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has submitted this application and has hired a full-time project manager for the interstate. It is my understanding that state funding is ready to move quickly to upgrade SIU5 with a positive review of its TIGER II application. Therefore, I strongly support this application and ask for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress

EW:ch

DISTRICT OFFICES:

FIRST FLOOR
1403 SOUTH MAIN STREET
HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240
(270) 885-8079
(800) 328-5629
FAX: (270) 885-8598

SUITE F
200 NORTH MAIN
TOMPKINSVILLE, KY 42167-1548
(270) 487-9508
FAX: (270) 487-0019

SUITE 224
222 FIRST STREET
HENDERSON, KY 42420
(270) 826-4180
FAX: (270) 826-6783

ROOM 104
100 FOUNTAIN AVENUE
PADUCAH, KY 42001
(270) 442-6901
FAX: (270) 442-6805

BRETT GUTHRIE
SECOND DISTRICT, KENTUCKY



COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
AVIATION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ASSISTANT WHIP

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER, HIGHER EDUCATION, LIFELONG
LEARNING AND COMPETITIVENESS
HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR AND PENSIONS
HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

July 26, 2010

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


Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to you in support of the application submitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky for funding assistance through the TIGER II Grant Program to complete SIU5 of Interstate 69. Because this project will greatly enhance the lives of my constituents, I am extremely interested in this effort.

According to the information I have received, Kentucky's legislature recently committed more than \$50 million over the next two years to move forward eight projects along the corridor-all on existing parkways. KYTC's application for TIGER II funding would allow for the opening of about 75 miles, about half of the total mileage through the Commonwealth. Kentucky's parkways are already part of the federal highway system, and making operational and safety improvements to upgrade them I-69 status represents a major savings for tax payers.

I am asking for your full and fair consideration, within applicable laws and regulations, of this request. If I can provide you with any additional information, please contact Brian Smith, my Director of Economic Development at 270-438-6599 or brian.smith2@mail.house.gov. You may forward your reply to my Hardin County office located at 411 W. Lincoln Trail Boulevard, Radcliff, Kentucky, 40106. Thank you in advance for your kind assistance.

Sincerely,



BRETT GUTHRIE
Member of Congress

BG/bds