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July 19, 2010

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

Secretary LaHood,

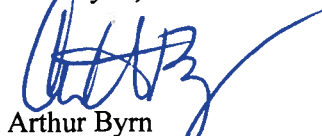
On behalf of the Purchase Area Development District Board of Director's I would like to say thank you for your consideration of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's TIGER II grant application to complete Segment of Independent Utility 5 of I-69.

Kentucky's General Assembly recently committed more than \$50 million over the next two years to move forward eight projects along the corridor—all on existing parkways. Upgrading Kentucky's parkways is a bargain for the U.S. DOT. They were built with very little federal money and are part of the federal highway system. A small investment from the TIGER II grant would allow for the necessary safety and operational improvements to open the entire SIU5. This maximizing of the existing system represents a significant savings for tax payers.

Much of the corridor through western Kentucky consists of economically depressed communities that need the benefits that Interstates bring. Indeed, Kentucky is centrally located along the entire seven-state I-69 corridor. The route will enhance the intermodal regional possibilities that include several major riverports and airports.

Kentucky's Transportation Cabinet has shown a large commitment to I-69 with the hiring of a full-time project manager and state funding and is ready to move quickly to upgrade SIU5 with a positive review of its TIGER II application.

Thank you,



Arthur Byrn
Board Chairman

Copies: Governor Steve Beshear
Senator Mitch McConnell
Senator Jim Bunning
Congressman Ed Whitfield



Pennyryle Area Development District

a regional planning and development agency

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July 8, 2010

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

Secretary LaHood,

I urge your support of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's application for TIGER II grant money to further the opening of a large section of Interstate 69 in western Kentucky.

We are fortunate that Kentucky built an extensive system of four-lane, limited access parkways in the 1960s and 1970s. Much of the Purchase, Western Kentucky and Pennyryle parkways will be upgraded to become I-69. SIU5 covers approximately 75 miles and could take significant steps to being officially "shielded" with a positive result from the TIGER II grant.

Upgrading Kentucky's parkways is a bargain for the U.S. DOT. They were built with very little federal money and are part of the federal highway system. A small investment from the TIGER II grant would allow for the necessary safety and operational improvements to open the entire SIU5. This maximizing of the existing system represents a significant savings for tax payers.

I-69 has significant state support. The Kentucky legislature's recently approved road plan includes eight projects to further its development.

Our company/organization thanks you for the U.S. DOT's full consideration of Kentucky's TIGER II application for Interstate 69.

Sincerely,

W. Craig Morris
Regional Planner

Copies: Governor Steve Beshear
Senator Mitch McConnell
Congressman Ed Whitfield



GRADDify your community...plan today, progress tomorrow

July 20, 2010

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Green River Area Development District supports the Commonwealth of Kentucky's application for TIGER II grant funding for the development of Interstate 69.

I-69 will run directly through Henderson and Webster counties in GRADD's seven-county service area. It has been in planning stages for a number of years but has made significant progress in the past 18 months, including the naming of a project manager by KYTC and inclusion of eight projects in the state's new road plan.

Much of the area of Kentucky that will be crossed by I-69, including SIU5 for which the grant is intended, is economically depressed. There is only one Interstate in western Kentucky—I-24—and it reaches only through southwestern Kentucky. Economic data shows that the average per capita income for Kentucky residents who live in counties that have an Interstate highway is one-third higher than for counties that are not served directly by an Interstate. Certainly, the development of I-69 through western Kentucky would have a positive job growth impact for our entire region.

Our neighboring states of Indiana and Tennessee are making rapid progress on their segments of I-69. Indiana, for example, will have 60+ miles of new construction underway by the spring of 2011. Kentucky is fortunate to have its parkways available for upgrading to become I-69. The Western Kentucky and Pennyriple parkways that comprise SIU5 represent a savings to the U.S. government and ultimately tax payers for their upgrading to I-69.

Thank you for your consideration of Kentucky's I-69 TIGER II grant application. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jiten S. Shah
Executive Director

Bill Markwell, *Chairman* ■ Mary Pate, *Vice Chairperson* ■ Jody Jenkins, *Secretary* ■ Bill Parrish, *Treasurer* ■ Jiten Shah, *Executive Director*

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July 20, 2010

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20501-0001

Subject: TIGER II application for I-69 in Kentucky

I am writing to encourage your favorable consideration of Kentucky's TIGER II grant application for the completion of operational and safety upgrades to the SIU-5 of I-69 through Western Kentucky.

This section of I-69 travels along the existing Pennyryle and Western Kentucky Parkways constructed primarily with funds provided by Bonds issued by the state of Kentucky. The Bonds were paid by users of these highways through tolls. These existing highways are fully controlled and fully integrated from near the Ohio River on the north to I-24 at the south end of SIU-5. The Kentucky Legislature and Governor have approved more than \$50 million for upgrades to the entire 170 mile section of I-69 through Kentucky.

Kentucky's Legislature, Governor and Transportation Cabinet have shown a commitment to improving the SIU-5 section of I-69 and can begin the improvements quickly with the approval of the TIGER II application. I-69 will provide economic development to rural Western Kentucky, resulting in jobs for our citizens and tax revenue at the local, state and national levels. Using these existing roadways will save tens of millions of dollars over the construction of a new interstate highway through and across Western Kentucky.

For the above reasons, I encourage your approval of the TIGER II application for SIU-5 of I-69 in Western Kentucky.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. Corum, Chairman
SIU-5 Committee for I-69
Madisonville- Hopkins County
Economic Development Corp.



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