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*Congress of the United States*  
*House of Representatives*  
*Washington, DC 20515-1317*

SENIOR WHIP  
REGIONAL WHIP

August 27, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to lend my strong support for the Brighton-Bunker Hill Road reconstruction project application submitted to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) by Macoupin County (IL).

As you know, on December 16, 2009, the Fiscal Year 2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act became law (P.L. 111-117). Included in this legislation under Title I is \$600 million for DOT to award "TIGER II Discretionary Grants." I fully believe that the Brighton-Bunker Hill Road project qualifies as a project worthy of federal assistance, and that Macoupin County's application fully meets the criteria set forth in DOT's Final Notice of Funding Availability as published in the Federal Register on June 1, 2010.

The Brighton-Bunker Hill Road is Macoupin County's most heavily-traveled corridor. Unfortunately, the amount of automobile accidents on this road is disproportionately higher than other roads of comparable use. Additionally, there are hazardous factors affecting this road such as inadequate water drainage, inadequate road width, an overgrowth of trees and underbrush, insufficient pavement strength for heavier trucks, and several other characteristics negatively affecting the safety of this important avenue for commerce. It is for these reasons, coupled with the economic activity this project would spur in Macoupin County, that I ask you give this project every possible consideration for TIGER II grant funding.

Thank you for your consideration of this project and all of your efforts to strengthen the infrastructure of Illinois and this nation. If you have any questions on this project, please do not hesitate to contact Andy Rowe in my Moline office (309-793-5760) or Mike Ramos in my Washington, DC office (202-225-5905).

Sincerely,

PHIL HARE  
Member of Congress

PH:mr

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