

Missouri
Department
of Transportation



Pete K. Rahn, Director

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September 8, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

St. Charles County, Missouri, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) have applied for a TIGER Grant in the amount of \$100 million. Federal funding will allow for the completion of Phase III/Missouri Route 364 (Page Avenue), a project long advocated for completion by MoDOT and a project of regional and national significance.

Construction of this project will not only provide for an Interstate to Interstate connector, but will also provide traffic relief to the St. Louis regional transportation network, and the gridlocked Interstate 70.

St. Charles County will need to make a financial commitment of \$30 million and MoDOT will recommend to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission a \$10 million match. This amounts to a 29% total cost share, which does not include past investments on the part of MoDOT and St. Charles County to complete preliminary design plans and to clear right-of-way.

This project is supported by Federal, state, and local elected officials, along with business and community leaders, and the regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The project is ready to be constructed and completed by early 2012. Design/build legislation passed by the Missouri General Assembly has recently been signed into law by Governor Jay Nixon. According to the Missouri Department of Economic Development (as per REMI Modeling), this project will create immediate jobs during construction and, thereafter, significant job creation will be realized.

MoDOT's first priority is for the MoDOT TIGER Discretionary Grant application for reconstruction of up to 30 miles of Interstate 70 with dedicated truck lanes in Saline and Cooper Counties. However, MoDOT also supports the St. Charles County application.

MoDOT Letter of Support

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We are eager to get this project underway. A TIGER Grant application has been completed for submittal and is supported by MoDOT and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission. Approval of the \$100 million TIGER Grant in January 2010 will allow work to get underway immediately.

Secretary LaHood, taxpayers look forward to seeing their hard earned tax dollars invested constructing Phase III/Missouri Route 364. Your favorable consideration is sought from applicants willing to make a substantial investment in a partnership with the Federal Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin Keith".

Kevin Keith, P.E.

Chief Engineer

Copy: Ms. Maggie Hales, Interim Director, East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Pete Rahn-do
Ed Hassinger-d6
Jay Wunderlich-gr