

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2503

August 25, 2009

Mr. Ray LaHood
U.S. Transportation Secretary
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

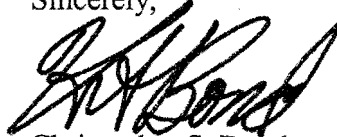
It has been brought to my attention that St. Charles County, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation, has applied for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant, in the amount of \$100 Million, with hopes to fund completion of Phase III MO Route 364 (Page Avenue).

Missouri Route 364 will complete a missing link in the region's transportation network, which has been planned and supported by local, regional, and state transportation authorities for 40 years. The completion of this project will:

- Reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions on Interstate 70, a transcontinental highway, and Interstate 64;
- Enhance mobility to and from economically distressed areas by improving transportation choices;
- Provide motorists with an alternative route during inspection and maintenance of the other Missouri River bridges;
- Enhance system operations when the deck on the Missouri River bridge on Interstate 70 is replaced (\$70 million, scheduled in 2012) and during the bridge replacement on Interstate 64 (planned);
- Provide a freeway connector from Interstate 270 to Interstate 64;
- Facilitate more efficient freight movement on Interstate 70;
- Provide better access for the region's employment pool to employment opportunities and retraining facilities; and
- Foster long term economic growth in underutilized properties.

It is my hope that you give their application full and favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Bond
United States Senate

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