



**East Metro  
Economic  
Alliance**

September 3, 2011

**President:**  
Casey Ryan  
Riverview  
Community Bank

Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**President-Elect:**  
Kathy Clevenger  
Microchip

**Treasurer:**  
Barb Cardinale  
Key Bank

Dear Mr. Secretary:

**Secretary:**  
Rex Brittle  
MBank

I am writing to express my support for the joint TIGER III grant application submitted by the Port of Portland, the City of Troutdale, and the Oregon Department of Transportation. This grant application for road improvements around the Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park (TRIP) will significantly enhance employment, freight mobility, and community livability in the Portland, Oregon area.

**Exec Director:**  
Travis Stovall

East Metro Economic Alliance is a public/private partnership focused on economic advocacy in East Metro Portland Oregon. Our 60 members are dedicated to offering insight and input to better position the region to compete for economic development opportunities both nationally and internationally. The improvements being requested for TRIP would significantly raise the competitive edge of this parcel to assist in job creation at a time when that is a major focus for our country.

TRIP is one of the largest parcels of zoned industrial property in an increasingly constrained Portland metropolitan area. It is a brownfield site that the Port of Portland and City of Troutdale are transforming into a productive, job-generating industrial district. At the same time, the Port and City are carefully designing the development to also unlock the recreational and natural habitat potential of the surrounding area.

The TIGER III grant application submitted by the Port, the City, and the Oregon Department of Transportation would complete the critical components necessary to fully develop the industrial park. The road, bicycle, pedestrian, trail, and stormwater improvements that would be funded by the TIGER III grant would open it up to additional businesses and jobs, transportation options, recreational opportunities, and natural habitat restoration. With this grant, the Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park would become an even more valuable, balanced community asset.

Thank you for your consideration of our views in this matter.

Sincerely,

Travis Stovall  
Executive Director