

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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BUDGET

October 18, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write to request full and fair consideration for the application by the Port of Portland for an \$11 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery TIGER III grant for road improvements at Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park.

The goals of this project are consistent with the intent of the TIGER program to fund high-impact and innovative transportation investments that promote mobility, a cleaner environment, and more livable communities. In addition, this project will reduce our nation's carbon footprint and dependence on foreign oil, while simultaneously creating jobs and spurring economic development in depressed areas.

Our nation's economic recession has significantly impacted the entire state of Oregon, and this project will have tremendous impact on the efficiency of Oregon's transportation system, its environment and the lives of its citizens for years to come.

Thank you for your full and fair review of Port of Portland's TIGER III grant application. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Scott Maguire in my Portland office at 503-326-3386.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator