

CITY OF TROUTDALE

"Gateway to the Columbia River Gorge"

September 19, 2011

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

Mayor

Jim Kight

City Council

Doug Daoust

Norm Thomas

Glenn White

David Ripma

Rich Allen

Eric Anderson

City Manager

Craig Ward

City Attorney

David J. Ross

Dear Mr. Secretary:

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.

The City of Troutdale is a community of over 15,000 residents lying approximately 14 miles east of downtown Portland. Currently, the City's most exciting opportunities for growth and job creation lie in the industrial lands in the northern portion of the City. Funding from the TIGER III grant will allow the City and its partners to make long-needed improvements to the local street system that serves these industrial lands. The current character and condition of these streets are insufficient to fully support the industrial uses that the Portland region and the City hope to see developed. The City has accumulated over \$1 million in its transportation improvement fund for the needed projects, but the full scope of work needed remains beyond our means.

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 my views in this matter.

Sincerely,


Mayor Jim Kight

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