

October 20, 2011

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Letter of support and certification for the City of Rochester Inner Loop East
Reconstruction Project TIGER Discretionary Grant Proposal**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Per the Notice of Funding Availability for the Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments (TIGER Discretionary Grants Program) under the FY 2011 Continuing Appropriations Act as published in the August 12, 2011 edition of the *Federal Register*, this letter expresses the Genesee Transportation Council's strongest support for the City of Rochester's Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project as the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region's highest priority for the program.

On September 8, 2011, the Genesee Transportation Council (GTC) – as the designated metropolitan planning organization for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region – endorsed the project as its highest priority for the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program. This endorsement was made in recognition of the significant improvement to economic development and quality of life (consistent with the program's desired Long-Term Outcomes and Job Creation and Near-Term Economic Activity) for the entire Rochester, New York Metropolitan Area and larger Genesee-Finger Lakes Region that would occur if the project is implemented.

This letter also certifies that the project is included as an illustrative project in the recently-adopted *Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2035* and would be added to the *2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program* as soon as possible upon selection by the U.S. Department of Transportation to receive an award through the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program.

Thank you for your strong consideration of the City of Rochester's Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project for the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program.

Sincerely,



Richard Perrin, AICP

cc: Hon. Thomas Richards, Mayor – City of Rochester
Joan McDonald, Commissioner – New York State Department of Transportation
Mary Pat Hancock, Chairperson – Genesee Transportation Council

GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

Resolution 11-132 Endorsing the Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project as the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region's highest priority for the TIGER Discretionary Grants program

WHEREAS,

1. Division B of the Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Pub L. 112-010) as enacted on April 15, 2011 appropriated \$526.944 million to be awarded for National Infrastructure Investments;
2. The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is referring to grants for National Infrastructure Investments under the FFY 2010 Appropriations Act as "Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants";
3. TIGER Discretionary Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis for transportation projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region;
4. The purpose of the Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project is to remove a deteriorating, underutilized 2/3-mile segment of the Inner Loop Expressway, roughly between Broadway and Charlotte Street, and replace it with a surface street along the existing Union Street alignment thereby reconnecting the Center City with adjacent neighborhoods, enhancing bicycle and pedestrian conditions, and creating up to nine acres of "shovel-ready" land for redevelopment.;
5. The Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project is wholly consistent with and will maximize the benefits of several other existing and planned highway, bridge, public transportation, bicycle, and pedestrian projects that have been or will be funded with local, state, and federal funds;
6. The Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project is included in the *Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2035*;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

1. That the Genesee Transportation Council endorses the Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project as the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region's highest priority for the TIGER Discretionary Grants program;
2. That the Council supports the preparation and submittal of any and all necessary TIGER Discretionary Grants application materials by the City of Rochester for the Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project;

3. The Genesee Transportation Council will amend the *2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program* at the earliest possible date to include TIGER Discretionary Grants funds if so awarded by USDOT;
4. That this resolution takes effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the Genesee Transportation Council certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Genesee Transportation Council held on September 8, 2011.

Date 9/15/2011

Robert A. Traver
ROBERT A. TRAVER, Secretary
Genesee Transportation Council