



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

August 31, 2009

TOM LATHAM
Congressman
4th District, Iowa

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to you in strong support of the grant application submitted by the Ames, Iowa Transit Agency (CyRide) for TIGER funding assistance for an Intermodal Facility in Ames, Iowa. This well thought-out project will provide a needed boost to the local economy, enhance mobility through a coordinated, multi-modal network using intercity and urban transit system buses, reduce fuel consumption and carbon emissions by reducing vehicle miles, and promote sustainability through a LEED certified design.

It is projected that the construction of this facility will create over 500 short-term construction and construction-related jobs, while adding close to \$60,000,000 to the local and regional economies. Once the facility is up and running, its operations will generate almost 500 long-term, quality jobs, and add over \$50,000,000 to the economy of Central Iowa.

The Intermodal Facility will coordinate five transportation services and attendant connections in Ames to other areas of the region, and to points beyond the region. Moreover, it will serve as a catalyst for the redevelopment of an adjacent business district which currently has a 'Distressed Area' classification.

Apart from the economic development impacts of the project, the Intermodal Facility will provide parking for its patrons and Iowa State University students, faculty & employees. In turn, this will reduce vehicle miles driven each day and allow for a coordinated transportation network that will serve the Central Iowa region well.

The Area Metropolitan Planning Agency and other organizations, including the state government, have been part of the planning for this initiative. Local funding, as a percentage match, will be provided through a joint agreement between Iowa State University and the City of Ames.

In summary, the Ames Transit Agency Intermodal Facility project makes a lot of sense for the type of transportation requirements found in this region in Central Iowa. Your earnest consideration of this application will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tom Latham
Member of Congress

Washington Office:
2217 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5476
202-225-3301 Fax
1-866-428-5642 Toll Free

Ames Office:
1421 South Bell Avenue
Suite 108A
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-232-2885
515-232-2844 Fax

**Clear Lake/
Mason City Office:**
812 Hwy 18 East
P.O. Box 532
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428
641-357-5225
641-357-5226 Fax

Fort Dodge Office:
1426 Central Avenue
Suite A
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501
515-573-2738
515-576-7141 Fax

Internet:
www.tomlatham.house.gov

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1502

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SMALL BUSINESS

September 8, 2009

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

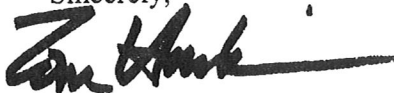
Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express my support for a grant application submitted by the Ames Transit Agency (CyRide) for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant funding. The project, a collaboration between Iowa State University, the City of Ames and the Ames Transit Agency, would construct the Ames Intermodal Facility.

The Ames community is an avid proponent of public transportation, enjoying one of the highest levels of transit service in the state with ridership per capita rivaling large metropolitan areas like Chicago and Denver. The Intermodal Facility will further improve mobility between transportation modes within the city and the region. In addition, it will provide the initial infusion of dollars needed to stimulate the Ames economy through the revitalization of the Campustown Business District, with over \$50 million in construction activity, as well as an additional \$50 million annually in operations, meeting the intent of the TIGER grant program.

I hope you will give every consideration to this project. Please direct any correspondence regarding this matter to my grants office in Des Moines. Thank you for this opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,



Tom Harkin
United States Senator

TH/jnm

REPLY TO:

- 135 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501
(202) 224-3744
e-mail: grassley.senate.gov/contact.cfm
- 721 FEDERAL BUILDING
210 WALNUT STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50309-2140
(515) 288-1145
- 150 1ST AVENUE NE
SUITE 325
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401
(319) 363-6832

REPLY TO:

- 103 FEDERAL COURTHOUSE BUILDING
320 6TH STREET
SIOUX CITY, IA 51101-1244
(712) 233-1860
- 210 WATERLOO BUILDING
531 COMMERCIAL STREET
WATERLOO, IA 50701-5497
(319) 232-6657
- 131 WEST 3RD STREET
SUITE 180
DAVENPORT, IA 52801-1419
(563) 322-4331
- 307 FEDERAL BUILDING
8 SOUTH 6TH STREET
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51501-4204
(712) 322-7103

United States Senate

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

August 26, 2009

Ms. Sheri Kyras
Director
CyRide
1700 West 6th Street
Ames, Iowa 50014

Dear Ms. Kyras:

I have contacted the U.S. Department of Transportation expressing my support for the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) application submitted by the City of Ames. I asked that it be given all due consideration. When I receive a response from the U.S. Department of Transportation, I will relay the necessary information to you.

Thank you for allowing me to be of assistance to you. If you have any further questions regarding this, or any other federal matter, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

CEG/sk

RANKING MEMBER,
FINANCE

Committee Assignments:

BUDGET
JUDICIARY
AGRICULTURE

CO-CHAIRMAN,
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL CAUCUS