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October 26, 2011

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

RE: Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center TIGER III Application

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The City of Havre supports the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center project on whose behalf the Northern Express Transportation Authority has requested \$9,998,910 in TIGER III grant funding. A non-federal match of \$7,346,558 will be joined with federal funds and committed to the completion of this project.

In spite of the fact that our state is the fourth largest state in the nation, Montana lacks the capability to ship and/or receive containerized cargos for import and export. Because of the non-existence of a multimodal facility for handling container unit trains, Montana manufactures are unable to containerize products and commodities for export to world markets. The building of this facility would mean a tremendous advance in export potential for our producers and manufacturers.

This project has received all required environmental clearances and is ready to commence. We at the City of Havre hope for a favorable review and consideration of this application for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Solomon". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Tim Solomon, Mayor
City of Havre