



BCC 2011-207  
October 18, 2011

PHONE: (406) 258-4877  
FAX: (406) 721-4043

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

**RE: PORT OF NORTHERN MONTANA MULTIMODAL HUB CENTER  
TIGER III APPLICATION**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Missoula Board of County Commissioners offers its support of the grant application for the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center project. Northern Express Transportation Authority has requested \$9,998,910 in TIGER III grant funding. Federal funds will be combined with a 42% non-federal match that has been committed to the project. Montana is the fourth largest state in the nation, yet we currently do not have the ability to ship or receive import and export containerized cargo due to the lack of a multimodal facility.

This project would construct Montana's first multimodal facility to make possible the export of agricultural commodities and manufactured products. Montana manufacturers lack the ability to containerize their cargos for export delivery to world markets. The facility as proposed would serve to address this statewide shortfall in export potential.

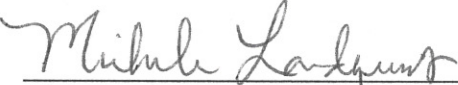
The project is completely ready. It has received all required environmental clearances, including Categorical Exclusions from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration.

As funding applications are evaluated, we hope you will carefully consider the project's many benefits. We appreciate the opportunity to endorse the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center TIGER III application.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Curtiss, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Carey, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michele Landquist, Commissioner

BCC/ppr

cc: Melissa Lewis, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson  
Greg Robertson, Public Works Director

