



Pasta Montana L.L.C.
One Pasta Place
Great Falls, MT 59401
(406) 761-1516
Fax: (406) 761-1403

October 20, 2011

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

RE: Northern Express Transportation Authority/TIGER III Grant Application

Dear Mr. Secretary,

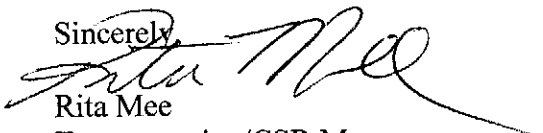
Pasta Montana respectfully requests your support for the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center. This project will construct Montana's first multimodal facility that will permit the export of value added food commodities and manufactured goods—a nationally and regionally significant commercial accomplishment.

Pasta Montana uses the most advanced technology to craft the finest pasta from the purest ingredients. We put customer satisfaction above all, using superior durum and applying the latest methods to tailor each product. Constructing a multimodal rail facility in Shelby will enhance our ability to serve valued domestic and international markets. Transporting our product via traceable, containerized cargos will help to ensure that our pasta is free from contamination and meets high quality standards.

Montana is the 4th largest State in the nation yet it does not have the ability to ship or receive containerized cargos for import or export due to the lack of a multimodal facility capable of accepting and delivering unit trains of containers. Once a multimodal facility is constructed, Pasta Montana will use it to transport approximately 780 40 foot containers of fresh pasta to the Pacific Northwest for export to Japan each year.

As funding applications are evaluated, please consider our pledged support.

Sincerely,



Rita Mee
Transportation/CSR Manager
Pasta Montana