

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

October 25, 2011

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

Dear Mr. Secretary,

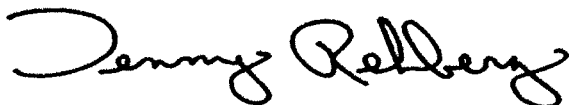
I am writing in support of the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center and their application for TIGER III grant funding. Federal funds will be combined with a \$7,346,558 non-federal match that has been committed to the project and dedicated to completing it, and the project is ready to begin construction.

This project would build Montana's first multimodal facility to facilitate the export of agricultural commodities and manufactured products. Grant funds would be used to construct 10,860 lineal feet of rail to support Burlington Northern Santa Fe's Class 1 intermodal trains, 4,849 lineal feet of access roads to the facility and a 20-acre laydown yard to stage oversize equipment.

Montana is the fourth largest state in the nation, but does not have the ability to ship or receive oversize or containerized cargos for import and export due to the lack of a multimodal facility capable of accepting and delivering unit trains of containers. Our farmers, ranchers, businesses and manufacturers lack the ability to containerize their cargos for export delivery to world markets. This facility would serve to address this shortfall in export potential.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact my office if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Denny Rehberg
Montana's Congressman