

Superintendent
Matthew Genger



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October 19, 2011

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

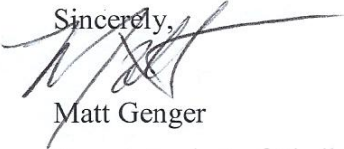
Dear Mr. Secretary,

On behalf of School District #14, I respectfully request your support for the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center project.

We support this project because it would eliminate a motor vehicle and pedestrian bottleneck that interrupts school bus access to School District #14 schools located north of the current BNSF Intermodal Facility site. Each year 16,534 passengers board trains at the Shelby AMTRAK Depot. BNSF switching activities block a busy street crossing (Galena) at the east end of the AMTRAK Depot and loading platform in Shelby. This creates a series of traffic backups and slows the movement of school buses that service School District #14. Relocating the rail facility to an industrial part of town would resolve that problem.

As funding applications are evaluated, please consider this important project benefit.

Sincerely,



Matt Genger

Superintendent of Shelby Public Schools