

CITY OF SHELBY

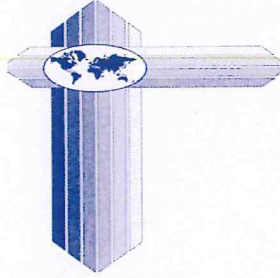
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Mayor: Larry J. Bonderud

Council: Cindy Doane, Eugene Haroldson,
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Attorney: William E. Hunt, Jr.

Bldg Inspector/Planner: Jim Yeagley

Finance Officer: Teri Ruff

Judge: Sherrie Murphy

Superintendent: Bill Moritz

Community Development: Lorette Carter

October 20, 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 the City of Shelby, being the legislative authority of the city, I am sending this letter to support the Northern Express Transportation Authority's Department of Transportation TIGER III Discretionary Grant Program for the Port of Montana Multimodal Hub Center project.

The Northern Express Transportation Authority has requested \$9,998,910 in FY 2012 TIGER III grant funding to construct Montana's first Multimodal facility capable of exporting containerized cargos of food commodities and manufactured goods to Pacific Northwest ports. The need for this project was first recognized in 1990 and was adopted at that time in our 1990 Growth Policy and has been included in all subsequent plans since that date.

Since fiscal year 2006, this project has been phased based on available funding. To date, \$7,199,093 has been committed to the project including \$4,275,093 (59%) in local funding, \$2,284,000 (32%) in federal funding and \$640,000 (9%) in state funding.

All of the required right of way has been acquired and certified by the State of Montana, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration. Nearly half of the project has been constructed. All utility relocation design and final design for the first two phases of the project have been completed. All environmental work is complete. Categorical Exclusions have been received from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration.

As the legislative authority, consider this a letter of certification of the availability of \$7,346,558 of Tax Increment Finance District funding to complete this project so that we can begin to realize its regional, state and national benefits.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Bonderud". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Larry Bonderud
Mayor