

JOHN D. DINGELL
15TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
CO-CHAIR
HOUSE GREAT LAKES
TASK FORCE
MEMBER
MIGRATORY BIRD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2215

September 14, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
ROOM 2328
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2215
(202) 225-4071
DISTRICT OFFICES:
19855 WEST OUTER DRIVE
SUITE 103-E
DEARBORN, MI 48124
(313) 278-2936
23 EAST FRONT STREET
SUITE 103
MONROE, MI 48161
(734) 243-1849
301 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 305
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
(734) 481-1100

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE,
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

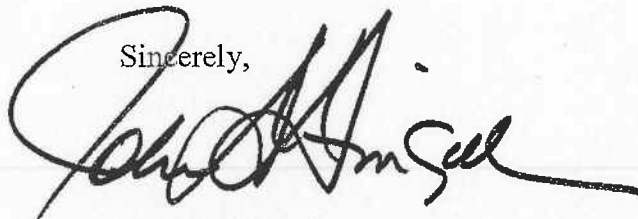
I am writing you in support of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program application offered by the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan to repair the Stadium Boulevard bridges, one over State Street and the other over the Ann Arbor Railroad. These proposed renovations are located in Michigan's 15th Congressional District. This grant would provide \$22.5 million in funding.

The Stadium Boulevard bridges run through the heart of Ann Arbor, connecting the University of Michigan, the driving force behind Ann Arbor's economy to major freeways that professors and students use every day to commute to campus, including US-23, M-14 and I-94. The fact that over 25,000 automobiles use the bridges every day illustrate how vital a role they play in the lives of Ann Arbor residents. Currently, the bridge over State Street has a Federal Deficiency Rating (FDR) of 2, indicating the poor condition of this structure and the serious hazard of keeping this bridge open. The city has already reduced the traffic lanes on the bridges from four to two for the public's safety. If the bridges continue to deteriorate further, the city may have to close them without advance notice, which would greatly damage the economy of the Ann Arbor area. These disruptions could be avoided with the approval of the TIGER grant.

Given the long-standing priority, well established need and shovel-ready nature of this proposal, I urge you to support the funding request offered to improve the Stadium Boulevard bridges in Ann Arbor, MI. If you have any questions or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member, Andrew LaBarre, at (313) 278-2936.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress

DEBBIE STABENOW
MICHIGAN

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
BUDGET
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE

United States Senate

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2204

June 22, 2009

The Honorable Raymond L. LaHood
U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am writing in support of the Non-Formula Stimulus Fund Grant application submitted by the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Stadium Boulevard is a major corridor that connects three area highways and carries 25,000 cars, pedestrians and bicyclists per day through the city. The bridges over State Street and the Ann Arbor Railroad are extremely old, deteriorating and structurally deficient. This funding will enable them to replace these critical bridges before they cause major interruptions to transportation and public services in the City.

I am impressed by the efforts of the City of Ann Arbor to address the need for infrastructure and transportation improvements. I hope you will give their proposal your strong consideration.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

221 W. LAKE LANSING ROAD
SUITE 100
EAST LANSING, MI 48823
(517) 203-1760

243 W. CONGRESS STREET
SUITE 550
DETROIT, MI 48226
(313) 961-4330

432 N. SAGINAW STREET
SUITE 301
FLINT, MI 48502
(810) 720-4172

3335 S. AIRPORT ROAD W.
SUITE 6B
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684
(231) 929-1031

3280 BELTLINE COURT
SUITE 400
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49525
(616) 975-0052

1901 W. RIDGE
SUITE 7
MARQUETTE, MI 49855
(906) 228-8756

CYNTHIA H. WILBANKS
VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



6008 FLEMING ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
503 THOMPSON STREET
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109-1340
734 763-5554 FAX: 734 764-3316
wilbanks@umich.edu

April 17, 2009

The Honorable Mark Schauer
United States Representative
800 West Ganson Street
Jackson, Michigan 48902

Dear Congressman Schauer,

As you may be aware, the City of Ann Arbor is exploring all opportunities possible to secure financial resources for the replacement of the Stadium Boulevard bridges over State Street and the Ann Arbor Railroad. We join others in the community in offering our full support for this effort.

The University campus is physically integrated within several areas of the City and as a result, we work extensively with City officials in planning and implementing improvements to the transportation networks that serve not only our own students and employees, but also the wider community.

We are mutually dependent on the roadways. And as these bridges are located within a quarter mile of two major university venues, Michigan Stadium and Crisler Arena, and carry substantial daily traffic, the replacement of these bridges is a priority for all who travel this area of our community.

Stadium Boulevard is a vital component of the Ann Arbor infrastructure we rely upon everyday and the University therefore, supports the efforts to replace the bridges and ensure their safety for years to come.

In anticipation of your support of these efforts, we thank you for any assistance you are able to offer in this request.

Sincerely,


Cynthia H. Wilbanks
Vice President for Government Relations

September 3, 2009

Michael G. Nearing, P.E.
Senior Project Manager, Project Management Unit
City of Ann Arbor
100 N. Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Mr. Nearing:

We understand the City of Ann Arbor is seeking TIGER grant funding for the Stadium Boulevard bridges over State Street and the Ann Arbor Railroad. A project to replace these bridges is specifically listed in the *2030 Regional Transportation Plan for Southeast Michigan* and clearly represents a priority for the region. We therefore support the application for additional funding.

Both bridges are structurally deficient and functionally obsolete, i.e. they are beyond minor or major repair conditions and need immediate replacement. The city has already restricted the bridges for safety. If not replaced, the bridges and intersecting roads may need to be closed, which would cut off a direct connection to the University of Michigan Campus and downtown -- both of which are significant traffic generators. This would clearly lead to detours and increased costs in terms of lost productivity, increased fuel consumption, and air pollution.

Replacing these bridges will improve the condition of the existing transportation system in Ann Arbor, maintain economic prosperity and livability in the area, and improve safety. This project will also maximize regional transportation goals, including access and mobility for citizens and freight.

Please contact me at 313-324-3314 or palombo@semcog.org if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Carmine Palombo, P.E.
Director
Transportation Programs



Ann Arbor Public Schools

2555 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734.994.2230

Todd Roberts, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools
robertst@aaps.k12.mi.us

May 13, 2010

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

Congressman John Dingell
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Honorable Gentleman,

I am writing in support of the City of Ann Arbor's request for funding to replace the East Stadium bridges located in the City of Ann Arbor.

The Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) is a district that serves 16,500 students who come from the City of Ann Arbor and parts of eight surrounding townships covering 125 square miles.

The East Stadium bridges are located just north of the AAPS transportation garage. This stretch of Stadium Boulevard is a major east-west corridor for student transportation. AAPS buses, staff, student and parent drivers use this boulevard at least twice a day to reach high schools, middle schools and elementary schools in Ann Arbor. Each school day AAPS routes 40 buses over these bridges. This equals over 7200 crossing per school year. 22 routes currently pass under these bridges each school day or 4400 trips annually. Additionally fields tips using AAPS buses using both the bridges and State Street underneath the bridges brings the total bus transportation using these routes to over 15,000 trips yearly. These roads are indeed critical to the transportation of Ann Arbor Public School students, parents and staff.

One of the largest high schools in the State of Michigan, Pioneer High School with over 2300 students, is located just west of these bridges. Students come from the other side of the bridges to get to high school each day. Stadium Boulevard is the most direct, and until recently, safest route for most drivers going to and from Pioneer High School. Most of the west and northwest bound buses have traditionally used this route, which crosses over the bridges, to start and end their routes each day. The partial lane closing of these bridges has forced the AAPS transportation department to reroute some of the daily buses, incurring longer bus rides for students and increase in fuel charges to the district. The largest AAPS middle school, Tappan Middle School, with over 700 students, is

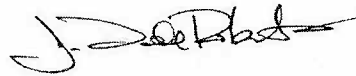
located directly east of the Stadium bridges. This route is again vital to the transportation of many staff and students to this school.

The East Stadium bridges also offer an important pedestrian route for students. The closing of the lanes on these bridges makes the pedestrian crossing dangerous. Due to the layout of the bridge, above the other main artery (State Street) and the railroad tracks, there is no other way to travel this route on foot except to cross the bridge, even in its current state.

The Ann Arbor Public Schools thoroughly supports the City of Ann Arbor's request for funding to replace the East Stadium bridges. This important thoroughfare is vital to the efficient transportation to and from many of the district's schools. The current state of the bridges has created an unsafe route for the buses, staff, students and parents who need to travel this route at least twice a day. For a community like Ann Arbor to have a main roadway like the East Stadium bridges exist in its current condition creates hardships, added costs and potentially dangerous traveling situations.

We ask, along with the City of Ann Arbor and its partners, for funding to assist the city in rebuilding these bridges.

Sincerely,



J. Todd Roberts, Ed.D.
Superintendent

JTR/je

COMMISSIONERS

DAVID E. RUTLEDGE
CHAIR

DOUGLAS E. FULLER
VICE CHAIR

FRED J. VEIGEL
MEMBER

WASHTENAW COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

555 NORTH ZEEB ROAD

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103

www.wcroads.org

STEVEN M. PUURI, P.E.
MANAGING DIRECTOR

ROY D. TOWNSEND, P.E.
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING/
COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEER

JAMES D. HARMON, P.E.
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

TELEPHONE (734) 761-1500
FAX: (734) 761-3239

May 14, 2010

The Honorable John Dingell
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Dingell,

Enclosed is a Resolution of Support approved by the Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners at their regular Board meeting on May 4, 2010. With this resolution, the Road Commission pledges our support of all efforts to secure federal funding through the TIGER Grant Program to reconstruct the Stadium Bridges in Ann Arbor, Michigan

The reconstruction of these bridges is a long-standing priority for the City of Ann Arbor, which has been advanced to be a shovel-ready project. This project will result in major economic benefit and significant job creation in the immediate area.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 734-646-5954 or via email at: rutledged@wcroads.org.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in support of this much needed funding.

Sincerely,



David E. Rutledge
Road Commission Chair

Enclosure

Cc: Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation
City of Ann Arbor
S. Puuri
R. Townsend
J. Harmon
File

WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
RESOLUTION CERTIFICATION

Stadium Boulevard Bridges – Resolution of Support (TIGER Grant Program)

Resolution No. RC10-132

Moved....

WHEREAS, the Stadium Boulevard Bridges in Ann Arbor run through the heart of the City;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program administered through the US Department of Transportation will soon be announcing \$600 million dollars in funding for projects across the nation;

WHEREAS, the Bridges provide direct access to the University of Michigan (U-M), including the football stadium, and is the most traveled corridor in the City of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County;

WHEREAS, the Bridges serve as the first impression of the UM football stadium, where President Obama will give the 2010 U-M Spring Commencement address;

WHEREAS, the Bridges connect a driving force behind Ann Arbor's economy, to major freeways that professors, students, residents and visitors use every day to commute to campus, including US-23, M-14 and I-94;

WHEREAS, over 25,000 automobiles use the bridges every day, illustrating the vital role the Bridges play in the lives of Ann Arbor residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, two fire stations are located within two miles of Stadium Bridge, which provides critical access to U-M's campus, which is especially important during game days at U-M;

WHEREAS, currently, the Bridge over State Street has a Federal Deficiency Rating (FDR) of 2, indicating the poor condition of this structure and the serious hazard of keeping this bridge open;

WHEREAS, any bridge with an FDR of 50 or below must be considered for total replacement;

WHEREAS, the City has already reduced the traffic lanes on the bridges from four to two for the public's safety;

WHEREAS, the City has also reduced the allowable load limit on the Stadium Bridge over State Street and has even prohibited heavy trucks from using the bridges;

WHEREAS, if the bridges continue to deteriorate further, the City may have to close them without advance notice, which would greatly damage the economy of the Ann Arbor area;

WHEREAS, the goal of the TIGER program is to preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery through projects that will provide long-term economic benefits and assist those most affected by the current economic downturn;

WHEREAS, modeling by the City of Ann Arbor has found that the Stadium Bridges project would generate over \$53 million in real economic output (measured in 2009 dollars) with over \$13 million of economic output generated in 2010; and

WHEREAS, this modeling has found that the project would create approximately 448 full time employees during the peak of the project, jobs that are well-paying and much-needed in Southeast Michigan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Road Commission fully supports any and all efforts to secure federal funding through the TIGER Grant Program for the repairing of the Stadium Bridges because it is a long-standing priority, well established need and shovel-ready project that will bring needed jobs, economic benefits and infrastructure improvements to the State of Michigan, Washtenaw County; the City of Ann Arbor; and surrounding communities.

Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

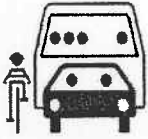
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Washtenaw County Road Commissioners held on May 4, 2010, and is on file at the Office of the Washtenaw County Road Commission, 555 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103.



Steven M. Puuri, Deputy Clerk

Dated: 5/4/10

W
A
T
S



WASHTENAW AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

705 NORTH ZEEB ROAD 2ND FLOOR
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103-1560
PHONE: (734) 994-3127 FAX: (734) 994-3129
WEBSITE: WWW.MIWATS.ORG
E-MAIL: WATS@MIWATS.ORG

April 2, 2009

Honorable John Dingle
US Representative District 15
301 W. Michigan Ave
Suite 305
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Re: Stadium Bridges, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Dear Representative Dingell:

The Washtenaw Area Transportation Study supports the City of Ann Arbor application ARRA discretionary funding for the reconstruction of the Stadium Bridges over State Street and the Ann Arbor Railroad. These bridges are in the Washtenaw County 2030 Plan and are a regional priority for improvement.

The City of Ann Arbor recently reduced traffic on the bridge over State Street to two lanes in an effort to protect the public yet not cut off this important link to University facilities and the access to the freeway.

WATS recommends that the City of Ann Arbor's request for funding for these important structures receive consideration for the ARRA funding.

Sincerely,

Terri Blackmore,
Executive Director

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- CITY OF ANN ARBOR • ANN ARBOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY • ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP • CITY OF CHELSEA • VILLAGE OF DEXTER •
- DEXTER TOWNSHIP • EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY • MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP • PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP •
- CITY OF SALINE • SCIO TOWNSHIP • SOUTHWEST WASHTENAW COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS • SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP • UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN •
- WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS • WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION • CITY OF YPSILANTI • YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP •
- EX OFFICIO: FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION • SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS •

AN INTERMUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE ORGANIZED UNDER ACT 200 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN (1957)
REPRESENTING WASHTENAW COUNTY



Ann Arbor Acquisition Corporation Owner/Operator



August 12, 2009

City of Ann Arbor
Guy C. Larcom Municipal Building
P.O. Box 8647
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

Attention: Roger Fraser
City Administrator

Re: E. Stadium Boulevard Bridge Reconstruction and Improvement Project
Letter of Project Support
Your File No. 2006-045.18

Dear Mr. Fraser:

I am writing with regard to your proposed project to reconstruct and improve the existing E. Stadium Boulevard Bridges over S. State Street and the Ann Arbor Railroad tracks.

Ann Arbor Railroad continues to support your efforts to reconstruct these structures. As you most probably know, the bridge over the Ann Arbor Railroad tracks has been in place for almost 90 years and provides a much needed grade separation between E. Stadium Boulevard and our railroad tracks. Given the volume of existing traffic along E. Stadium Boulevard we believe that this grade separation is important to your citizen's and of the motoring public's safety.

We would not support any effort to eliminate the existing grade separations if it includes any attempt to establish a crossing of E. Stadium Boulevard at grade and we would oppose this action formally with MDOT (they have jurisdiction regarding railroad crossings within the state). Finally, we believe that railroad traffic will only increase in this area within the lifespan of the bridge, thus increasing the likelihood of future crashes should the grade separation be removed.

In conclusion, we support this project and look forward to working with your staff during its design to ensure that our mutual interests can be met. If we can be of further assistance in supporting this reconstruction project, please let us know how we can best assist your efforts.

Sincerely,

John M. Chlipala
Chief Engineer

cc: Sue F. McCormick, Area Administrator, Public Services Area, City of Ann Arbor
Homayoon Pirooz, P.E., Manager, Project Management Services Unit, City of Ann Arbor
Terri Blackmore, Executive Director, Washtenaw Area Transportation Study Committee
E. O. Erickson, President, Ann Arbor Railroad



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

111 North Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Phone: (734) 794-6961 • Fax (734) 994-8814

www.a2gov.org/fire

May 25, 2010

US Department of Transportation
Ray LaHood
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood,

I write to you today in support for the City of Ann Arbor's request for grant funding for two new bridges within the city limits. As the Fire Chief for the city, I have a personal interest in these bridges and their current condition. The Ann Arbor Fire Department serves a full-time population of over 114,000 residents, as well as thousands of students and employees from the University of Michigan (U of M). The East Stadium Bridges have deteriorated to the point that we have instituted a policy that our fire apparatus, which have a high gross vehicle weight, are forbidden from traversing the bridges. They have serious issues that are obvious and visible even to the untrained eye.

As is the case with so many cities in Michigan, and also in the rest of the country, without financial assistance, adequate funds are not available for replacement. These bridges provide key access to roadways that would allow our crews quicker access to fire or medical emergency calls at the U of M sports complex and within that vicinity. The weight of an apparatus fully staffed with equipment could compromise the safety of the bridges, which is why we had to put procedures in place for our crews to take alternate routes, which in turn, increases our response times in emergency situations when every second is so critical.

I truly believe that awarding the requested grant monies to the city would make the bridge replacement a reality. This is not a matter of ascetics, but rather one of safety, by reducing response times when called for incidents in that portion of the university or area of the city.

I hope you will take my professional observations, and commitment to safety for this city, into consideration. I welcome any questions you may have on this matter: 734.794.6000, extension 49602 / dlanza@a2gov.org.

Sincerely,

Dominick Lanza
Fire Chief

CC:
Congressman John Dingell
2328 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515-2215

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
RECONSTRUCTION OF STADIUM BOULEVARD BRIDGES**

WHEREAS, the safe and unhindered flow of people, goods, and services throughout the City of Ann Arbor is of utmost importance to the safety, welfare, and economic vitality and viability of the community, and

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) is an essential element in the City's overall transportation system, and utilizes the Stadium Boulevard Bridges to daily transport citizens to areas of employment, education, recreation, health care, business and commerce, and

WHEREAS, in an effort to maintain one of the few direct east-west corridors within the community, the City has reduced the traffic lanes on the deteriorating bridges from four down to two, and further, has reduced the allowable load limit on these structures, and

WHEREAS, continued deterioration of these bridges will result in their total closure, cause severe hardship to the area's citizens, hinder the movement of emergency services, greatly damage the area's economy, and adversely affect AATA's ability to provide public transportation services to major portions of the city, and

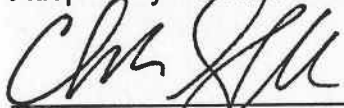
WHEREAS, the said Stadium Boulevard Bridges have a Federal Deficiency Rating (FDR) of 2, while an FDR of 50 or below mandates the total replacement of such a structure, and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program administered through the US Department of Transportation will soon announce \$600 million in funding for worthwhile projects across the nation, and


WHEREAS, the use of TIGER funds to rebuild the Stadium Boulevard Bridges will restore and improve this invaluable transportation link within the Ann Arbor area and will generate enormous economic impact and jobs in severely economically depressed Southeast Michigan, therefore

IT IS RESOLVED, that the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority fully supports all efforts to secure federal funding through the TIGER Grant Program for the rebuilding of the Stadium Boulevard bridges because it is a long-standing transportation network priority, a recognized crucial community need, and a shovel-ready project that will bring jobs, economic benefits, and invaluable infrastructure improvements to the State of Michigan, Washtenaw County, the City of Ann Arbor, and its surrounding communities.

Adopted by the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Board of Directors May 5, 2010



Charles Griffith, Acting Chair



Rich Robben, Acting Secretary



May 11, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the soon-to-be Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber of Commerce and its 1,500-plus member organizations, I am writing to express strong support for the City of Ann Arbor's TIGER II Discretionary Grant application for federal funding for reconstruction/replacement of the Ann Arbor East Stadium Boulevard bridges.

These bridges service approximately 26,000 vehicle trips per day. They are an essential component of Stadium Boulevard, which is the only east/west arterial roadway spanning Ann Arbor's 27 square miles. They are, however, failing.

Aside from public safety concerns, which are of paramount importance, full use of the Stadium bridges is integral to our area's system of roadways and by extension commerce and local economy. Businesses, customers, employees, visitors, tourists, students and residents alike all depend upon these bridges to serve their daily needs.

In the heart of Ann Arbor, and spanning a railway and arterial street, the Stadium bridges afford our area substantial connectivity, linking east and west Ann Arbor as well as our several surrounding highways. Moreover, the bridges service our area's visitor magnet – the University of Michigan's athletic campus, which includes Michigan Stadium, Crisler Arena and the U-M Golf Course. Nearby Ann Arbor Pioneer, one of the state's largest high schools, heavily relies upon these bridges as well.

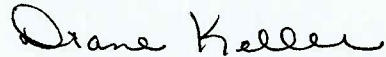
In closing, please know that there is strong, broad-based community support for Ann Arbor receiving a TIGER II Discretionary grant. These

Together We Profit

115 West Huron, 3rd Floor • Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
Phone: 734.665.4433 • www.annarborchamber.org • Fax: 734.665.4191

monies working toward the Stadium bridges' reconstruction/replacement are critical to the area's economy.

Sincerely,



Diane Keller, President & CEO
Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti Area Chambers of Commerce

cc: Deputy Secretary John D. Porcari, USDOT
Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, State of Michigan
Director Kirk T. Steudle, MDOT
U.S. Senator Carl Levin
U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow
Congressman John D. Dingell
Congressman Mark Schauer
Congressman Fred Upton
Administrator Roger Fraser, City of Ann Arbor
Kirk Profit, Governmental Consultant Services Inc.

Kyle V. Mazurek

From: Lisa Perschke [lisap@recycleannarbor.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2010 4:33 PM
To: Kyle V. Mazurek
Subject: E. Stadium Blvd Bridge Letter

Dear Kyle,

I am sending this to Washington, DC. so I wanted to email this to you. Thank you.

May 25, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express strong support for the City of Ann Arbor's TIGER II Discretionary Grant application for federal funding for reconstruction/replacement of the Ann Arbor East Stadium Boulevard bridges.

These bridges service approximately 26,000 vehicle trips per day. They are an essential component of Stadium Boulevard, which is the only east/west arterial roadway spanning Ann Arbor's 27 square miles. They are, however, failing.

Aside from public safety concerns, which are of paramount importance, full use of the Stadium bridges is integral to our area's system of roadways and by extension commerce and local economy. Businesses, customers, employees, visitors, tourists, students and residents alike all depend upon these bridges to serve their daily needs.

In the heart of Ann Arbor, and spanning a railway and arterial street, the Stadium bridges afford our area substantial connectivity, linking east and west Ann Arbor as well as our several surrounding highways. Moreover, the bridges service our area's visitor magnet – the University of Michigan's athletic campus, which includes Michigan Stadium, Crisler Arena and the U-M Golf Course. Nearby Ann Arbor Pioneer, one of the state's largest high schools, heavily relies upon these bridges as well.

In closing, please know that there is strong, broad-based community support for Ann Arbor receiving a TIGER II Discretionary grant. These monies working toward the Stadium bridges' reconstruction/replacement are critical to the area's economy.

Sincerely,

Lisa Perschke
Business Recycling Coordinator

Recycle Ann Arbor

5/25/2010

