

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 10, 2009

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We are writing in support of five additional Maryland applications for funding under the ARRA Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants program. The State's efforts in implementing highway and transit projects under P.L. 111-5, "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" (ARRA) is reflective of the work Maryland is putting into ensuring the swift, transparent implementation of projects that will preserve and create jobs as well as promote economic recovery.

These projects, being submitted by various local government and private entities throughout Maryland, are supported by the State and were specifically selected after an extensive project solicitation and review period that involved coordination between MDOT and potential partners.

1. **Rehabilitation of the Maryland and Delaware Railroad (MDDE) Snow Hill Freight Line** - This project, being applied for by the County Commissioners of Worcester County (one of Maryland's seven economically distressed areas) would upgrade the Eastern Shore freight rail line operated by MDDE between Frankford, DE, and Snow Hill, MD.
2. **Westport Waterfront Transportation Infrastructure Improvements for Transit Oriented Development** - This funding, being applied for by the City of Baltimore (one of Maryland's seven economically distressed areas), would facilitate the implementation of the key statewide priority of transit-oriented development (TOD).
3. **National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) - Regional Priority Bus Project** - This project, being applied for by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, would improve transit service along transit corridors in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

4. **BRAC Multi-Modal Traffic Mitigation and Pedestrian Access Project** - This project, being applied for by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, would finance the design and construction of a multi-modal traffic mitigation and pedestrian access project around the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda and address a third BRAC related growth issue in Maryland.

We thank you for your consideration of Maryland's projects and for your continued support of infrastructure needs in Maryland.

Sincerely,

*Barbara A. Mikulski Benjamin L. Cardin*

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United States Senator

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