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Chair:
Judiciary Committee
Member:
Legal Services Committee

COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
DENVER
80203

September 8, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 80590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I represent Gilpin County in the Colorado House of Representatives. Gilpin County includes the towns of Black Hawk and Central City, and Colorado Highway 119.

I am writing this letter to support the Roads, Rivers, and Recovery project's application for the TIGER grant. The unique partnerships formed in the planning of this project truly meet the spirit of the special criteria of the TIGER grant. By working together with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment, the federal Environmental Protection Agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Colorado Department of Wildlife, and numerous local agencies, this project presents a unique opportunity to clean up the superfund sites along North Clear Creek while constructing a safer roadway to Black Hawk and Central City. This, in turn, will add to the job creation that is already occurring in those towns.

The Roads, Rivers, and Recovery project will address a heavily traveled and unsafe stretch of State Highway 119. It is a narrow, steep canyon that is subject to frequent and unexpected rockfall. Because of the topography, there is little to no cell phone coverage so emergency services cannot be called from the road. The addition of the new technology to monitor potential traffic tie-ups and the continued control of potential rockfall danger will make traveling in this area far safer than it is today.

Only by working in concert with all the stakeholders can these mutually beneficial actions take place, and the Roads, Rivers, and Recovery project will allow this work to be done in the most efficient manner possible.

Please add my name to your list of supporters for this project.

Very truly yours,

Claire Levy

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