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

August 14, 2010

COMMITTEES:  
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AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
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WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT  
AVIATION

The Honorable Raymond L. LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I write in support of the of the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority's (CCRMA) proposal for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) funds from the United States Department of Transportation. If awarded, this request will fund the East Loop project in Brownsville, Texas, which would provide a new freight corridor that will lead to a more efficient trade route.

The East Loop project is a comprehensive partnership initiative involving the CCRMA, Cameron County, the City of Brownsville, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Brownsville Navigation District, and numerous partners in Mexico. The project is a critical component in improving the flow of trade from the Port of Brownsville to industrial facilities in South Texas and Northern Mexico. The \$23 million they are requesting for the East Loop project will allow them to achieve the maximum benefits of a new freight corridor that will increase safety, enhance connectivity, reduce congestion, improve livability and create a sustainable economic development environment for many years to come.

I would appreciate your full and fair consideration of this request. Obtaining this funding would allow the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority to complete the East Loop project which has state, national, and international significance. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can be of further assistance.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



Solomon P. Ortiz  
Member of Congress

SPO:jm