October 20, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER III grant application for Newberg-Dundee Bypass

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Oregon Transportation Commission is pleased to offer its support of the Oregon Department of Transportation’s application for TIGER III grant funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project.

After reviewing this and other TIGER III proposals from throughout Oregon, the Commission chose to designate this project one of our top priorities in the state because of its important benefits to Oregon’s transportation system, the state’s economy and the livability of our communities. The Commission believes this project would be a strong candidate for TIGER III funds.

OR 99W through Newberg and Dundee is one of the most significant congestion chokepoints in the State of Oregon. The Newberg-Dundee Bypass would help eliminate this congestion by building a two lane, access controlled road around Newberg and Dundee, taking a significant number of vehicles—particularly heavy trucks—out of the central business districts of these communities and allowing them to reclaim their downtowns. The TIGER grant application also seeks funding for bicycle/pedestrian facilities that will link the two communities and ensure that local trips can use safe non-motorized routes. While significant funding for the Bypass has been secured, ODOT is seeking to fill a funding shortfall.

Thank you for considering this grant application.

Sincerely,

David Lohman
Acting Chair, Oregon Transportation Commission
August 10, 2011

Gail Asherman, Chair
Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC)
1158 Chemeketa St. NE
Salem OR 97301

Dear Members of the OTC:

Subject: Support for Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 TIGER Application

The Mid Willamette Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT) strongly supports a Statewide Priority designation of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project, thereby making it one of the three TIGER applications for which ODOT would be the lead applicant.

This project has long been a priority of MWACT. Together with other significant amounts of State and Local dollars, receipt of TIGER funding would complete the funding package for this project. This is a mature project that is on schedule to meet the required time frame.

The project is eligible for TIGER funding as it meets the TIGER selection criteria, especially the Primary Selection Criteria:

- **Long Term Outcomes** - If left unimproved, the network efficiency, mobility of goods and people, and economic growth are threatened on this major corridor.
- **Job Creation and Near-Term Economic Activity** - The project will create construction jobs in an Economically Distressed Area and improve business access to the Portland area. The project is nearing the completion of its environmental review.

The project also strongly aligns with the Secondary Selection Criteria of:

- **Partnership** - Funding for this project demonstrates the State and Local partnership that has been forged over the years. TIGER funding would complete the funding package required for Phase 1—an important six-mile long segment.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

Ken Woods, Jr., Chair
Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation

kw:Im
October 18, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write to express my support for the application by the Oregon Department of Transportation for a $15 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) III grant for the Newberg-Dundee Transportation Improvement Project.

The goals of this project are consistent with the intent of the TIGER program to fund high-impact and innovative transportation investments that promote mobility, a cleaner environment, and more livable communities. In addition, this project will reduce our nation’s carbon footprint and dependence on foreign oil, while simultaneously creating jobs and spurring economic development in depressed areas.

Our nation’s economic recession has significantly impacted the entire state of Oregon, and this project will have tremendous impact on the efficiency of Oregon’s transportation system, its environment and the lives of its citizens for years to come.

Thank you for your full and fair review of the Oregon Department of Transportation’s TIGER III grant application. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Katie Gauthier in my Salem field office at (503) 362-8102.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator
October 20, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for ODOT's TIGER 3 grant application
for Phase One of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

I commend you and the Oregon Transportation Commission for your decision to request a TIGER 3 grant for Phase One of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project as a statewide priority project.

As Newberg’s State Representative, I strongly endorse this $17 million TIGER 3 grant application to complete the funding package needed to construct Phase One. I have been a strong supporter of the Bypass concept for many years and hope this grant request is successful so we can move the project forward.

Phase One of the Bypass is extremely important for my constituents. Currently, the traffic congestion on Oregon Highway 99W is horrendous. This damages the livability of Newberg and Dundee, hampers efforts to revitalize the downtowns, and causes traffic hazards which pose risks to human life and property. In fact, the gridlock in Newberg and Dundee harms the economy of Northwest Oregon from the Portland Metro area to the central Oregon Coast.

Traffic studies show that Phase One will reduce traffic in Newberg by nearly 20 percent and by over 40 percent in Dundee. Heavy freight truck traffic – which is the biggest impediment to livability and pedestrian safety – will be decreased by as much as 45 percent in Newberg and 68 percent in Dundee.

Once Phase One is built, the livability of the downtowns of Newberg and Dundee will be greatly enhanced. These retail districts will thrive and grow. Business and job opportunities will expand.

As the final piece of the funding package for Phase One, this TIGER 3 grant is essential and it is my pleasure to support ODOT’s grant application for Phase One of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Kim Thatcher
State Representative
House District 25

cc: The Honorable John Kitzhaber, Governor of the State of Oregon
Oregon Transportation Commission
RESOLUTION NO. 2011-17

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY OF DUNDEE’S SUPPORT OF FUNDING EFFORTS FOR PHASE 1 OF THE NEWBERG-DUNDEE BYPASS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the City of Dundee has adopted modifications to the Dundee Transportation System Plan recognizing the need to address traffic congestion and unsafe driving conditions on Highway 99W; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has recognized the need for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass by placing the project on a list of Transportation Projects of Statewide Significance; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Legislature in 2009 passed HB2001 referred to as the Oregon Jobs for Transportation Act (JTA), which, recognizes the economic importance of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and has specifically allocated $192,000,000 to fund Phase I of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Newberg-Dundee bypass has been supported in Congress on a bipartisan and bicameral basis for many years, receiving $28 million in federal funds from authorizing (TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU) legislation and multiple years of annual appropriations bills which has already funded significant amounts of right-of-way acquisition, a completed Location EIS ROD, and the FEIS/ROD expected by March, 2012; and

WHEREAS, local governments of Yamhill County agree in principal to a local match of $20,000,000 from increased revenues provided to these local governments as the result of passage of the JTA; and

WHEREAS, a funding shortfall of nearly $30,000,000 has been identified as needed to complete funding for Phase I of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Transportation Commission has identified the Newberg-Dundee Bypass as a high priority project having a significant funding gap that could be filled with a grant from US DOT National Infrastructure Investment grant program, otherwise known as a TIGER III.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF DUNDEE RESOLVES THAT:

The City of Dundee strongly supports and will work with the local governments of Yamhill County to provide a share of the increased gas tax revenue generated as the result of the passage of the JTA in order to provide a portion of the $20,000,000 local match.
Furthermore, the City of Dundee also strongly supports efforts by the Oregon Department of Transportation to apply for a TIGER III grant to obtain up to $30,000,000 in additional funding in order to complete funding for Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass.

Passed by the City Council this 20th day of September, 2011.

Approved:

Ted Crawford, Mayor

Attest:

Rob Daykin, City Administrator/Recorder
RESOLUTION NO. 2011-__

A Resolution Expressing the City of McMinnville's Support of Funding Efforts for Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Project

RECITALS:

Since 1989, the City of McMinnville has been on record supporting the need to address traffic congestion and unsafe driving conditions on Highway 99W near and through the cities of Newberg and Dundee.

The traffic congestion currently existing on Highway 99W has a direct impact on the economic wellbeing and economic opportunities of the City, its local businesses, and its citizen in that the extent of the congestion creates a substantial barrier to travel between McMinnville and the Portland metropolitan area.

The City of McMinnville has supported the effort to have the Oregon Department of Transportation construct highway improvements that would provide a highway bypass around the cities of Newberg and Dundee (from the south side of Dundee on Highway 99W to the north end of Newberg on Highway 99W).

Such a bypass would improve the quality of life and the economic well-being of the cities of Newberg and Dundee and improve the economic well-being of all Yamhill County by improving the timeliness and efficiency of business, resident and visitor travel along the Highway 99W transportation corridor.

In 2009, the Oregon State Legislature passed HB 2001. This bill, the Oregon Jobs for Transportation Act (JTA), recognizes the economic importance of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and allocates $192,000,000 to fund Phase I of the bypass project.

ODOT has indicated that a funding shortfall of nearly $30,000,000 has been identified in the revenue needed to complete funding for Phase 1 of the project.

The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) has identified the Newberg-Dundee Bypass as a high priority project, having a significant funding gap that could be filled or partially filled with a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER III) grant program.

Additionally, there is an expectation by project supporters that a local match of $20,000,000 from Yamhill County and the local governments within Yamhill County will also be needed to support final funding of Phase I of the Bypass.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF McMinnville, Oregon, as follows:

1. The City of McMinnville continues to support the need for the completion of
the entire Newberg-Dundee Bypass that will be an eleven mile long, four lane,
access controlled expressway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee
(extended from the Highway 99W / Highway 18 junction near Dayton to east of
Newberg at the top of Rex Hill); and that will significantly reduce traffic
congestion and travel times in that corridor; and

2. The City of McMinnville strongly supports the Oregon Department of
Transportation in its application for a TIGER III grant to obtain up to
$30,000,000 in additional funding toward completion of Phase I of the
Newberg-Dundee Bypass;

3. The City of McMinnville supports the effort to determine the proper and
necessary amount of a local funding match and will work with the local
governments of Yamhill County to determine: the amount of the local match;
the timing of the local match; the applicable cost allocation formulas related to
the match; and the appropriate local financing methods, including any
commitments of future gas tax revenues received by the City from the State
of Oregon; and

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage and shall continue
in full force and effect until revoked or replaced.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of McMinnville at a regular meeting
held the 11th day of October 2011 by the following votes:

Ayes: Hill, Jeffries, May, Menke, Ruden

Nays: 

Approved this 11th day of October 2011.

Approved as to form:

[Signature]

CITY ATTORNEY

Resolution No. 2011 - 29
RESOLUTION NO. 2011-2975

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FUNDING EFFORTS FOR PHASE 1 OF THE NEWBERG-DUNDEE BYPASS PROJECT

RECITALS:

1. The State of Oregon has recognized the need for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass by placing the project on a list of Transportation Projects of Statewide Significance.

2. The Oregon State Legislature in 2009 passed HB2001 referred to as the Oregon Jobs for Transportation Act (JTA), which recognizes the economic importance of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and has specifically allocated $192,000,000.00 to fund Phase I of the project.

3. The Newberg-Dundee Bypass has been supported in Congress on a bipartisan and bicameral basis for many years, receiving $28 million in federal funds from authorizing (TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU) legislation and multiple years of annual appropriations bills, which has already funded significant amounts of right-of-way acquisition, a completed location environmental impact study (EIS) record of decision (ROD), and the Final EIS/ROD expected by March, 2012.

4. The City of Newberg has adopted modifications to the Newberg Transportation System Plan recognizing the need to address traffic congestion and unsafe driving conditions on Highway 99W.

5. A funding shortfall of nearly $30,000,000.00 has been identified as needed to complete funding for Phase I of the project.

6. The Oregon Transportation Commission has identified the Newberg-Dundee Bypass as a high priority project having a significant funding gap that could be filled with a grant from US DOT National Infrastructure Investment Grant Program, otherwise known as a TIGER III.

THE CITY OF NEWBERG RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City of Newberg strongly supports and will work with the local governments of Yamhill County to provide a share of the increased gas tax revenue generated as the result of the passage of the JTA toward the funding of Phase I.
2. Additionally, the City of Newberg also strongly supports efforts by the Oregon Department of Transportation to apply for a TIGER III grant to obtain up to $30,000,000.00 in additional funding in order to complete funding for Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass.

➤ **EFFECTIVE DATE** of this resolution is the day after the adoption date, which is: October 4, 2011.

**ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Newberg, Oregon, this 3rd day of October, 2011.

[Signature]
Norma I. Alley, City Recorder

**ATTEST** by the Mayor this 6th day of October, 2011.

[Signature]
Bob Andrews, Mayor

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**
By and through (committee name) Committee at (date) meeting. Or, X None. (check if applicable)
IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL
SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of a Resolution Expressing the Support of
Yamhill County for Funding Efforts to Build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Project

RESOLUTION 11-10-6-1

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY ("the Board") sat for the transaction of county business in formal session on October 6, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 32 of the Courthouse, Commissioners Mary P. Stern, Leslie Lewis, and Kathy George being present.

WHEREAS, the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners recognizes that construction of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass ("Bypass") is vital for recruiting, retaining, and expanding companies throughout Yamhill County and, furthermore, the Bypass is critical for the movement of people and freight throughout Northwest Oregon; and

WHEREAS, Yamhill County and its cities currently have over 520 acres of vacant industrially-zoned land with a realistic potential of developing 5,200 family-wage jobs in the manufacturing sector and, furthermore, the severe Highway 99W traffic bottleneck in the Newberg-Dundee area hampers the development of these industrial lands, causing lost job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is essential for revitalizing community livability and for enhancing business and job opportunities in the downtowns of Newberg and Dundee by reducing the heavy volumes of through traffic, particularly freight trucks, and thereby enabling these towns to create vibrant pedestrian-friendly retail centers; and

WHEREAS, the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is necessary to improve highway safety, prevent injuries, and decrease traffic fatalities in the 99W/18 state highway corridor and to improve access for police, fire, and emergency medical responders; and

WHEREAS, the Newberg-Dundee Bypass route has been selected, approved, and adopted by Yamhill County, the cities of Newberg, Dundee, and Dayton, and federal and state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has recognized the need for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass by placing the project on a list of Transportation Projects of Statewide Significance; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Legislature in 2009 passed HB 2001, referred to as the Oregon Jobs and Transportation Act (JTA), which recognizes the economic importance of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and has specifically allocated $192 million to fund Phase 1 of the Bypass; and

WHEREAS, Phase 1 is construction of a new 3.5-mile highway around the downtowns of Newberg and Dundee and, furthermore, traffic studies by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) indicate that Phase 1 will relieve congestion and improve public safety by reducing traffic by about 10% in Newberg and nearly 40% in Dundee; and

B.0. 11-623
WHEREAS, ODOT estimates that Phase 1 construction will begin in 2014, resulting in the creation of approximately 3,600 construction-related, family-wage jobs over the 2- to 3-year life of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Newberg-Dundee Bypass has been supported in Congress on a bipartisan and bicameral basis for many years, receiving $28 million in federal funds from authorizing legislation (TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU) and multiple years of annual appropriations bills, which has already funded significant amounts of right-of-way acquisition, a completed Location Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Record of Decision (ROD), and the Construction Final EIS/ROD, expected by March 2012; and

WHEREAS, local governments of Yamhill County agree in principle to a local match of $20 million to construct Phase 1 from increased highway tax revenues provided to these local governments as a result of passage of the JTA; and

WHEREAS, ODOT has determined that there is a funding shortfall for construction of Phase 1 of the Bypass project; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Transportation Commission has identified Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass as a high-priority project having a sizeable funding gap that could be filled with a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investment grant program, otherwise known as TIGER III;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners does hereby resolve that Yamhill County strongly supports and will work with the other local governments in the county to provide a share of the increased highway tax revenue generated as the result of the passage of the JTA in order to provide a portion of the $20 million local match.

Furthermore, the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners also supports ODOT’s application for a TIGER III grant to obtain up to $30 million in federal funds in order to complete funding to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project.

DONE this 6th day of October, 2011.

ATTEST

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REBEKAH STERN
County Clerk

MARY P. STERN
Chair

ANNE B. BOWERS
Deputy

LESLEY LEWIS
Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM KATHY GEORGE
Commissioner

RICK SANAI
Yamhill County Counsel

B.O. 11-623
October 6, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As Mayor of the City of Depoe Bay, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee, effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-19 transportation corridor is extremely important to my city and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Lincoln County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon’s fishing industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of my city. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Carol Connors, Mayor
City of Depoe Bay

c: Governor John Kitzhaber
   Oregon Transportation Commission
Date October 6, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1156 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As Mayor of the City of Lincoln City, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 transportation corridor is extremely important to Lincoln City and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Lincoln County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon’s fishing industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of my city. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Dick Anderson, Mayor
City of Lincoln City

CC: Governor John Kitzhaber
   Oregon Transportation Commission
October 7, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

On behalf of the City of Newport, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 transportation corridor is extremely important to the City of Newport and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Lincoln County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon’s fishing industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of my city. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

City of Newport

CC: Governor John Kitzhaber
    Oregon Transportation Commission
Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III Grant Application to Complete the Funding Necessary to Construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Project.

Dear Director Garrett,

As Mayor of the City of Sheridan, I am writing to express my support for the TIGER III grant, which would provide the additional funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. These TIGER III funds are necessary to build Phase 1 of the Bypass, which will alleviate the bottlenecked traffic congestion through Dundee on Highway 99W by 40 percent.

Highways 99W and 18 are the main transportation routes connecting my community. Our businesses depend on this freight route to move their goods to market and my constituents also rely on this corridor for travel to and from the Portland Metropolitan Area. The current traffic jam in Dundee is severely impacting our city's ability to attract new companies, even though we have nearly 66 acres of vacant industrially-zoned land. Once developed, the manufacturing businesses on this industrial land have the conservative potential of creating over 600 family-wage jobs.

Traffic safety in the highway 99W-18 corridor is also a major concern of mine. This is one of the most dangerous stretches of roadway in Oregon because, once freed of the traffic gridlock in Dundee, motorists tend to speed and pass at unsafe locations, resulting in severe injury or deadly accidents.

For public safety and for our economy, I thank you for applying for this TIGER III grant to complete the funding to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. I strongly endorse this grant request.

Sincerely yours,

Val Adamson, Mayor
City of Sheridan

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
    Oregon Transportation Commission
October 17, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As Mayor of the City of the City of Willamina, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee dramatically reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck for both Freight and Passenger Auto. The ADT is anticipated to be reduced in Dundee by over 13,000 vehicles a day average and in Newberg by over 9,000 vehicles a day average. The reduction in freight trips of 1,500 vehicles daily is expected in both Dundee and Newberg. This is a 68% daily trip reduction for Dundee and 45% for the City of Newberg.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to the City of Willamina, and our Coastal and Valley neighbors. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from the greater Portland area and I-5 corridor. Tourism and local businesses are critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to many cities and towns in Yamhill County and the Oregon Coast. Our area is the heart of Oregon’s tourism and winery industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting raw materials to the area and finished products to market and well as attracting businesses and industries that support not only the tourism and winery industry, but the City of Willamina as well.

More critical and of the greatest importance is the livability, sustainability, and safety of our local communities and citizens that is at stake. The Newberg/Dundee Bypass will go a long way in ensuring as additional traffic comes to our local communities those visiting will be more relaxed and calmed without having to put up with undo stress while driving through the Newberg/Dundee area wanting to spend additional time and money in our local communities.

Sincerely yours,

Vernon Mosser
Mayor
City of Willamina

Gov. John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 20, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III Grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As Fire Chief of the City of Newberg, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III Grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

My reasons for supporting the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project are numerous and all revolve around downtown livability; however the primary focus of my support is based on public safety. The most obvious benefit to public safety comes from less congestion in the downtown area and reduced potential for vehicle to vehicle collisions as well as vehicle to bicycle or pedestrian collisions. Studies have shown Newberg to have a vehicular crash rate that is 167% higher than that of similar highways in Oregon - a statistic that must not be ignored.

The 40 percent reduction of bottleneck traffic is also of great benefit to emergency vehicle responses. The majority of emergency vehicle responses in Newberg require emergency vehicles to utilize the now congested Hwy 99W as a primary response route or to navigate their way across Hwy 99W since it divides our City. Removing the heavy thru traffic from Newberg will make emergency responses much more safe and efficient, not only for the public, but also for our emergency responders. Another benefit of the Newberg-Dundee bypass to emergency responders is the ability to more efficiently move through the region. The Newberg-Dundee Bypass will allow emergency resources from outside agencies to reach Newberg and Dundee more quickly and safely, and in turn, emergency resources from Newberg and Dundee will better be able to reach our neighboring communities during their time of need.

"Serious About Service!"
An additional benefit of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass to regional emergency services is the ability to provide timely critical patient transports. There are four emergency medical transport agencies located west of Newberg that rely on Hwy 99W every day as their primary transport route when moving critical patients to Providence Newberg Medical Center and other hospitals in the greater Portland area. The Bypass will allow for reduced patient transport times which in turn will provide the opportunity for improved patient outcomes.

In closing, my strong support for this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction is not just about downtown livability; it is about increased public safety. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Les M. Hallman, Fire Chief
Newberg Fire and EMS

CC: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission

"Serious About Service!"
Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director  
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)  
1158 Chemeketa Street NE Salem, Oregon

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

October 17, 2011

Dear Director Garrett and Honorable US Senators and Congressman:

On behalf of all Fire Departments in Yamhill County I want to express our strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing Highway 99W congestion.

I am the Fire Chief for the Dundee Fire Department. Also, I have been designated Chief for the Yamhill County Fire Defense Board. As the Chief for both the Fire Defense Board and Dundee's Fire Department I can see first hand the impacts heavy congestion on 99W has to public safety in the Newberg-Dundee area.

In particular, congestion increases the risks of vehicle-to-vehicle collisions as well as vehicle-to-bicycle or pedestrian collisions. Numerous studies have shown that vehicular crash rates are over 1 ½ times the rate for similar highways in Oregon. These high crash rates place an enormous strain on emergency response agencies.

Congestion on 99W also degrades response times for not only my Fire Department but also for mutual aid responses from neighboring cities such as Newberg, Dayton or McMinnville. Further, emergency transport services for several Yamhill county cities west of Dundee rely on 99W to transport critically or severely ill patients to Providence Newberg Medical Center or to other hospitals in the greater Portland area. Delays due to congestion on 99W places these patients at greater risk and also ties up important assets should other patients need to be transported.

Construction of Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is long overdue to relieve Highway 99W congestion. The livability and public safety of not only Newberg-Dundee but of the entire county will be improved. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Chief John Stock  
Yamhill County Fire Defense Board and Dundee Fire Department

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber  
Oregon Transportation Commission
"Excellence In Service"

Sheriff Jack Crabtree

October 20, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

I want to thank you and the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) for your leadership in requesting a $17 million TIGER III grant to complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project.

As the Chief Executive Officer for Yamhill County, I strongly support the Bypass because of my sincere concern for traffic safety in the Highway 99W-18 corridor. As you know, this is one of the most dangerous transportation corridors in Oregon. These dangers are magnified by the daily traffic jam in Newberg and Dundee, with the mixture of a high volume of heavy semi-tractor trailers and tourist traffic. I firmly believe that the bottleneck in these two towns leads to motorist frustration, followed by excessive speeds and unsafe passing on other portions of this corridor. These factors cause accidents, which far too often result in fatalities at expressway speeds.

Highway 99W is vital as an evacuation route for the Portland Metropolitan Area, for the central Oregon Coast, as well as for Yamhill County residents in the event of a major tsunami, earthquake, or other emergency. If such an evacuation were needed today, without a Bypass, Newberg and Dundee would quickly become a parking lot, impeding both motorists and emergency personnel. In fact, the impediment to emergency responders is almost a daily occurrence in these two towns due to the current congested conditions.

On behalf of the dedicated law enforcement community in Yamhill County, I want to thank you and the OTC once again for recognizing Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass as one of the high priority projects for Oregon. I wholeheartedly support your TIGER III grant request for this critically important project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Jack Crabtree
Sheriff
Yamhill County

cc: The Honorable John Kitzhaber, Governor of the State of Oregon
Oregon Transportation Commission

It is the Mission of the Yamhill County Sheriff’s Office
to provide our citizens with high quality law enforcement services, in an ethical and fiscally responsible manner.
October 24, 2011

Mr. Tim Potter
Oregon Department of Transportation
1158 Chemekeeta Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Mr. Potter:

As Superintendent of McMinnville School District 40 I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee dramatically reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck for both freight and passenger auto. The ADT is anticipated to be reduced in Dundee by an average of 13,000 vehicles a day and in Newberg by an average of 9,000 vehicles a day. The reduction in freight trips of 1,500 vehicles daily is expected in both Dundee and Newberg. This is a 68% daily trip reduction for Dundee and 45% for the City of Newberg.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to the McMinnville School District. We rely heavily on this corridor to move staff and students to and from the greater Portland area. Our students participate in numerous activities with Newberg, Tigard-Tualatin, Sherwood and Hillsboro schools. It is very difficult to transport students in a timely fashion in order to minimize the loss of instruction for participants in extracurricular activities.

We have lost employees and job candidates who reside in Newberg, Sherwood and Tigard because of the commute time between their residence and the school district.

Professional development is critical for staff licensure and teacher effectiveness. Travel to Lewis and Clark, George Fox and Portland State, three universities our staff engage with, is difficult at best. The Bypass Project would significantly reduce this barrier for our teachers.

McMinnville Schools is the region leader for College Credit Now in the Polk, Marion, and Yamhill counties. Travel time has prevented our ability to partner more extensively with College Credit Now programs to the east of this. This is important in order to access programs that are not available to us through Chemeketa Community College our main higher education partner.

Newberg-Dundee Bypass project will open up a variety of opportunities to the 6500 students, their families who travel to and from work between McMinnville and an array of cities to our east. Please support this project to enhance the livability of this region and more importantly to open up opportunities for students.

Sincerely,

Maryalice Russell, Ed.D.
Superintendent
October 21, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As Superintendent of Newberg Public Schools, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

We recognize the importance of the Oregon 99W-18 corridor linking the central Oregon coast and the Portland metropolitan area to our local, regional and state economy. Manufacturing and tourism in our community depend on this route. As one of Newberg's largest employers, our workforce relies on this route to travel to work in our schools from the Portland metro, western Yamhill County and local neighborhoods.

However, as trucks laden with goods and equipment, commuters, tourists and locals alike clog our streets, school buses must drive extra miles to avoid Highway 99W. Buses are required to take alternate routes to avoid traveling on Oregon 99W through Dundee and Newberg where possible. Dundee traffic is especially unsafe when it mixes cars, trucks, buses and children crossing the street as they walk to school. Additional bus routes have been added to transport children living near 99W to school because crossing this highway is considered unsafe for children by state standards. This increases the number of miles drive and children transported, driving school transportation costs up.

Newberg Public Schools strongly support the TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Phase I will increase economic efficiency and increase school safety. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paula A. Radich
Superintendent
Newberg School District 29J
October 13, 2011

David Lohman
Oregon Transportation Commission
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Mr. Lohman:

I am writing to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

For six years, the primary goal of the Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce has been to advocate strategies to get the Bypass built. We have done this for many reasons, such as: 1) recapturing our downtown communities; 2) providing transportation capacity to our burgeoning wine industry; 3) improving our local businesses’ ability to ship out and receive goods; and 4) attracting new businesses and support existing business expansion that will result in new jobs.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to local businesses. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people in and out of the region. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the epicenter of Oregon’s growing wine industry.

The Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce is a 400-plus Member Chamber representing businesses in the Newberg/Dundee/St. Paul area. The businesses include both traditional urban businesses and rural businesses, such as nursery farmers, grape growers and wineries. There is nothing more important to The Chehalem Valley Chamber from a public policy basis than building the Newberg-Dundee bypass.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paying construction jobs, it will also improve the movement of goods and services in and about the region, paving the way for new business development and expansion of existing business. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Kelsh
Executive Director

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 18, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett and Honorable US Senators and Congressman:
This letter is to express the strong support by the Dundee Civic Association (DCA) for the TIGER III grant application for funding of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing Highway 99W congestion.

Established in 2008, the DCA represents business, non-profit and civilian residents of Dundee. We feel the future of our city hinges on completion of Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. It is the only viable design to effectively reduce the Hwy 99W congestion in our city. Reduced congestion on 99W will improve the livability and financial strength of our city and area.

We will be able to reclaim our downtown core with a main street that has little to no truck traffic. Citizens and visitors will have increased safety when walking near and across 99W.

Without the Phase 1 Bypass, a high volume of truck traffic will continue to move through the center of Dundee along 99W within only a few yards of our elementary school. This is a great concern and movement of the trucks away from our children will give us great relief.

We will more effectively recruit businesses to our downtown core. Currently the city has several undeveloped or underdeveloped lots along 99W that could attract more future businesses to locate in Dundee if road congestion was reduced.

Please, we ask for your help so that we can help ourselves and ensure the future of Dundee as a safe, livable community, tourist destination and thriving business district. For these reasons, we strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Hesson, President - Dundee Civic Association

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 19, 2011

Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Director Garrett,

I am writing on behalf of the McMinnville Area Leadership Council, a group of business leaders representing private and public entities throughout our community, to request your support of ODOT’s TIGER III Grant application for additional Phase 1 funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Construction of the Bypass is our highest regional priority.

We all share a critical stake in the construction of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass, and we were elated by the Oregon Legislature’s $192 million commitment to Phase 1 of this project as a part of the State’s 2009 Oregon Transportation Plan. Despite the apparent loss of an anticipated $30 million match from the Federal Government, ODOT and communities along the Hwy 99/18 corridor remain united and determined to complete construction as scheduled with state and local funding resources as originally outlined in the Plan.

Additional federal funding for the Bypass might still be available in the form of TIGER III Grant awards for which ODOT is eligible. The Newberg-Dundee Bypass is vital to the economic vitality of our respective communities, the region, and to the State of Oregon. Long-needed transportation improvement within this critical metro-to-coast corridor is absolutely critical to economies and businesses along the route, and to the entire region! To the extent that job creation is a key to ending this most recent economic downturn, the current Newberg-Dundee traffic jam is severely impacting job creation throughout our area, but if we receive the TIGER grant and the Bypass is constructed, it will bring thousands of well-paying construction jobs associated with the Bypass project itself.

For these and many more reasons than I can outline here, we very strongly encourage your support of ODOT’s TIGER III Grant application for bypass funding!

Sincerely,

Mark Siegel
Council President
October 11, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As the Executive Director of the McMinnville Economic Development Partnership, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to our city and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from multiple counties including Multnomah, Marion, Polk and Lincoln County. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon's fishing industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market. There are over 230 manufacturers in Yamhill County alone. Effective transportation is critical to their ability to meet customer demands.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of businesses. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Judy Christensen
McMinnville Economic Development Partnership

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 17, 2011

Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: TIGER III Grant Support for Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 Construction

Dear Director Garrett,

We need your help and support! The success of ODOT's current TIGER III Grant application to complete the construction funding for Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project is critical to McMinnville and all communities along the Oregon 99W-18 Corridor!

You're familiar with this project, and I know you recognize how important it is to the economy of our region as well as that of the Central Oregon Coast. Not a day goes by that businesses along this corridor, from Portland to Newport, don't suffer from the effects of traffic congestion in the Newberg and Dundee area.

The vitality and competitive position of our local manufacturing base, especially in agricultural and steel products, is dependent on reasonable access to markets. These companies, vital to our local economy, provide good, living wage jobs that are constantly at risk as long as they are forced to compete with companies in other areas who have easier access to suppliers and markets. Moreover, our unique and developing wine industry and the area’s growing tourism population contribute significantly to the local and state economy once the first phase of the bypass is completed.

We're grateful to the Oregon Legislature, which deemed the Bypass their number one transportation project, further demonstrating their commitment by earmarking $192 million from the recently passed state transportation package for Phase 1 of the project. However, in the absence of anticipated Congressional appropriations, TIGER III grant funding becomes tremendously important as a source of much needed construction financing. On behalf of the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce I express our heartfelt support for ODOT’s grant application and I encourage you to do everything in your power to assure its success.

Sincerely,

Philip K. Hutchinson
President/CEO
October 20, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

On behalf of the McMinnville Downtown Association Board of Directors, I wish to convey the organization’s strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to McMinnville and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Yamhill County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area through our county to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Yamhill County wine country. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon’s Pinot Noir wine country and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County has a severe negative impact on tourism, job creation, and the economic well-being of McMinnville. Traffic there can add an hour to what should be a 20 minute drive between Newberg and McMinnville, and for our residents who are caught in that traffic frequently, the wasted time and fuel definitely impacts their quality of life. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is a transportation project of enormous significance to our entire region from the Oregon Coast through Yamhill County to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from McMinnville to Portland will result in long-term job creation for tourism, and other local industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Sandi Colvin, President

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 21, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

The Yamhill County Parkway Committee has been charged by Yamhill County with the responsibility of working with ODOT and other constituencies for the implementation of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project ("Bypass").

The construction of the Bypass is vital for recruiting, retaining, and expanding companies throughout Yamhill County and, the Bypass is critical for the movement of people and freight throughout Northwest Oregon.

Yamhill County and its cities currently have over 520 acres of vacant industrially-zoned land with a realistic potential of developing 5,200 family-wage jobs in the manufacturing sector and, the severe Highway 99W traffic bottleneck in the Newberg-Dundee area hampers the development of these industrial lands, causing lost job opportunities.

The Bypass is essential for revitalizing community livability and for enhancing business and job opportunities in the downtowns of Newberg and Dundee by reducing the heavy volumes of through traffic, particularly freight trucks, and thereby enabling these towns to create vibrant pedestrian-friendly retail centers.
The Bypass is necessary to improve highway safety, prevent injuries, and decrease traffic fatalities in the 99W/18 state highway corridor and to improve access for police, fire, and emergency medical responders.

The Bypass route has been selected, approved, and adopted by Yamhill County, the cities of Newberg, Dundee, and Dayton, and federal and state agencies.

The State of Oregon has recognized the need for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass by placing the project on a list of Transportation Projects of Statewide Significance.

The Oregon State Legislature in 2009 passed HB 2001, referred to as the Oregon Jobs and Transportation Act (JTA), which recognizes the economic importance of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass has specifically allocated $192 million to fund phase 1 of the Bypass.

Phase 1 of the Bypass will construct a new 3.5 mile highway around the downtowns of Newberg and Dundee. Traffic studies by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) indicate that Phase 1 will relieve congestion and improve public safety by reducing traffic by about 10% in Newberg and nearly 40% in Dundee.

ODOT estimates that Phase 1 construction will begin in 2014, resulting in the creation of approximately 3,600 construction related, family wage jobs over the two to three year life of the project. The Bypass will also result in many jobs in the wine industry and at Spirit Mountain Casino.

The Newberg-Dundee Bypass has been supported in Congress on a bipartisan and bicameral basis for many years, receiving $28 million in federal funds from authorizing legislation (TEA-21) and SAFETEA-LU) and multiple years of annual appropriations bills, which has already funded significant amounts of right-of-way acquisition, a completed Location Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Record of Decision (ROD), and the Construction Final EIS/ROD, expected by March 2012. The Bypass project has helped develop a significant transit system in urban and rural Yamhill County.

Local governments of Yamhill County agree in principle to a local match of $20 million to construct Phase 1 from increased highway tax revenues provided to these local governments as a result of passage of the JTA. ODOT has determined that there is a funding shortfall for construction of Phase 1 of the Bypass project.

The Oregon Transportation Commission has identified Phase 1 of the Bypass as a high priority project having a sizeable funding gap that could be filled with a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Infrastructure Investment grant program, otherwise known as TIGER III.
The Yamhill County Parkway Committee strongly supports and will work with the local governments in Yamhill County regarding their share of the increased highway tax revenue generated as the result of the passage of the JTA in order to provide for the $20 million local match.

The Yamhill County Parkway Committee supports the Bypass project and ODOT’s application for a TIGER III grant to obtain $17 million in federal funds in order to complete funding to build Phase 1 of the Bypass project.

Sincerely yours,

David Haugeberg,
Chair Yamhill County Parkway Committee

Cc: Oregon Transportation Commission
September 23, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

The Board of Directors for Travel Yamhill Valley would like to express our strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to the tourism industry in Yamhill County and all the way to the central Oregon Coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to these attractions, Yamhill County is the epicenter of Oregon’s burgeoning wine industry. The economic impact of the wine industry in Oregon has now reached 2.7 billion dollars in Oregon. This critical transportation project is essential to our ability to move wine products outside the region and for visitors outside the region to visit us.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of our tourism partners.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paying construction jobs, it will also improve the local tourism climate and allow our tourism partners to grow. For these reasons, we strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Wayne Bailey

Wayne Bailey
President Travel Yamhill Valley

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission

*Oregon’s Stomping Ground*

WELCOME TO WINE COUNTRY

POST OFFICE BOX 774 • McMinnville, Oregon 97128 • 503.883.7770 • INFO@TRAVELYAMHILLVALLEY.ORG • WWW.TRAVELYAMHILLVALLEY.ORG
September 14, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett and Honorable US Senators and Congressman:

We want to express our strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing Highway 99W congestion.

We represent the five largest wineries in and near the City of Dundee. Our five wineries are among the ten largest wineries by production in the State of Oregon. In 2010 our wine production exceeded 393,000 cases or nearly 5,000,000 bottles. According to a May 2011 report by Full Glass Research, about 1.75 million cases were produced in Oregon resulting in $252 million in revenue for Oregon wineries. Thus, our five wineries produce slightly over 1/5th of all wine in the state of Oregon and generated well over $50 million in revenue in 2010.

Although tourism is an important aspect of our industry, our five wineries only generate a relatively small portion of our revenue from direct, on-site sales. We are in effect manufacturing entities that rely on truck-based transportation to manufacture and ship millions of bottles of wine a year. Those supplies include grapes, barrels, tanks, bottles, etc. All of these inputs/outputs depend on timely delivery, before, during and after wine is produced.

Our wineries have grown consistently over the last few years and plan to continue to grow. However, Highway 99W congestion places constrictions on various aspects of our operations that have caused us to relocate at least some of our operations to locations away from Dundee and will cause us to relocate more operations away from Dundee if 99W congestion continues. For example, 99W congestion impacts timely delivery of grapes during harvest. Also 99W congestion increases freight costs to receive production equipment/supplies and deliver bottled wine to our customers around the country and the world.

99W traffic congestion in Dundee is severely impacting the efficient operations of our production facilities and we would all expand more and create more jobs if the congestion was reduced or eliminated. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to not just our wineries but for dozens of other wineries serviced by the 99W travel corridor.
Construction of Phase I of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is long overdue to relieve Highway 99W congestion. For these reasons, we strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Rollin Soles  
Argyle Winery

Joe Dobbes  
Wine By Joe and Dobbes Family Estates

Gary Horner  
Erath Winery

Laurent Montalieu  
NW Wine Company

Ken Johnston  
12th and Maple Wine Co.

CC: Governor John Kitzhaber  
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 17, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Director Garrett:

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III Grant Application to Complete the Funding Necessary to Construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Project

As a business owner in Yamhill County, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee, effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

Newberg has been home to A-dec for 46 years, and it’s been as many years that we’ve promoted the need for the Newberg-Dundee bypass. Livability in the county has deteriorated with the increased traffic, and the congestion is a constant source of frustration for residents and visitors. A simple errand across town can become an ordeal during weekend traffic and peak commuting hours.

Businesses are reluctant to move to the area because of the well-known transportation bottlenecks. Time is money to businesses, and travel time to and from the metropolitan area can take twice as long on heavy traffic days. Businesses would welcome a more expedient route.

As the largest employer in Yamhill County, we are concerned for the safety our employees who commute from outside the county or even those who commute between Dundee and Newberg or from the south side of town to our location on the north. Emergency response vehicles experience delays as traffic impedes their response time. The situation has become more than a nuisance; it has become dangerous.

We’d like to see our region prosper. We’d like to develop a downtown culture. We’d like to eradicate the chokehold on travel through our community. And we’d like to welcome new business to this part of the valley.

Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region and critical to the economic future of the area. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Joan Austin
Chairman, A-dec, Inc.

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commissioners
October 17th, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As the Managing Director of The Allison Inn & Spa I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to Newberg and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Lincoln County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route, including The Allison Inn & Spa, Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon's fishing industry and wine country and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of Newberg. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Pierre Zerk
Managing Director, The Allison Inn & Spa
cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 14, 2011

Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation
1140 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III Grant Application

Dear Director Garrett:

I have spent twenty-one years practicing law on First Street in Newberg. Over that time, I have seen numerous retail establishments come and go in your freight corridor. I know you have sat at City Hall, which is a block west of my building, and you have heard the noise impact that your freight route generates as it runs through our commercial center. Obviously the weight, number and speed of the traffic through this area is not conducive to a pedestrian retail oriented economy.

I also have the unique perspective of being involved with our Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce, which is the largest business organization in Yamhill County. I serve on their Board and am a past president. We have actively advocated for this transportation solution for many years. It is the one solution that our constituency can agree is of primary necessity.

We also support a strong tourism economy that would greatly benefit from improved transportation. We have an industrial base that is higher per capita than even the Portland Metro Area, which has difficulty getting raw materials, including qualified employees because of the transportation problems in our area. We even have a service industry providing care to the elderly that cannot obtain regular deliveries of food product from wholesalers because they are concerned that their trucks our lost in our transportation morass too long.

In all, the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is a regional solution to a regional problem. I can tell you in
great detail how the problems that the project is intended to solve affect Newberg, Dundee and the surrounding communities, but it is also important to understand that you have a dysfunctional freight route which impacts everything upstream and downstream. This is one of only two routes between the coast and the greater Portland Metro Area. Both areas suffer from negative impacts to their overall business community.

I would encourage you to make every effort to fund the gap for Phase 1 construction of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass whether it be a TIGER III funding request or any other funding mechanism.

Yours truly,

BROWN, TARLOW, BRIDGES, PALMER & STONE PC

Enclosure
cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
    Oregon Transportation Commission
    David C. Haugeberg
    Sheryl Kelsh, Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce
October 17, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

ODOT's TIGER III grant application to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

The Oregon 99W-Newberg Dundee Bypass project has been in the discussion and planning stages for well over twenty years — you have a real opportunity to keep this project timely moving forward to fruition, now, by supporting the pending TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. These TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee, dramatically reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck for both Freight and Passenger Auto. The ADT is anticipated to be reduced in Dundee by over 13,000 vehicles a day average and in Newberg by over 9,000 vehicles a day average. The reduction in freight trips of 1,500 vehicles daily is expected in both Dundee and Newberg. This is a 68% daily trip reduction for Dundee and 45% for the City of Newberg.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor, for numerous reasons, is extremely important to Cascade Steel Rolling Mills, Inc. and its 400 plus employees. As you may know, our steel mill in McMinville is an Electric Arc Furnace "mini-mill", which uses recycled scrap metal as its primary raw feedstock in the manufacturing of new finished steel products. An efficient and cost effective transportation network is critical to getting goods and services to our operation, as well as shipping our products to customers throughout the western US. Consequently, our business employees, vendors and others we do business with, including important connections to the greater Portland area and the I-5 corridor.

As you also know, this corridor is also the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the Oregon Coast. Improving transportation isn't just an accommodation to the casual traveler, it is essential for the daily livelihood of many.
Safety at the work-place is a top priority of our Company.....but just as important is the safety of our transportation system.....getting our employees and all who interact with our Company safely to and from their locations.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff Dyck
President
Cascade Steel Rolling Mills, Inc.

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 17, 2011

Ms. Mary Olson, Commissioner
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: TIGER III Grant Support for Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 Construction

Dear Commissioner Olson;

The success of ODOT’s current TIGER III Grant application to complete the construction funding for Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project is critical to McMinnville and all communities along the Oregon 99W-18 Corridor.

I believe we all recognize how important this Bypass project is to the economy of our region. Our business is negatively impacted every day by the effects of traffic congestion in the Newberg and Dundee area. This has to change! We need your support in securing the funding necessary for Phase 1 construction.

The vitality and competitive position of our local manufacturing base is dependent on our access to resources and to our customers. Accessible transportation means we can move our people, supplies, and products in a fashion that keeps us competitive in the global marketplace. Currently we have difficulty shipping overnight to destinations in the East because of the transportation restrictions between PDX and McMinnville, specifically through Dundee and Newberg. Companies like ours are vital to our local economy. We provide good, living wage jobs that are constantly at risk as long as we are forced to compete with companies in other areas who have easier access to suppliers and markets.

We’re grateful to the Oregon Legislature, which deemed the Bypass their number one transportation project, further demonstrating their commitment by earmarking $192 million from the recently passed state transportation package for Phase I of the project. However, in the absence of anticipated Congressional appropriations, TIGER III grant funding becomes tremendously important as a source of much needed construction financing.

We need the Newberg-Dundee Bypass to become a reality. I offer my strong support for ODOT’s grant application and I encourage you to do everything in your power to assure its success.

Sincerely,
Freelin-Wade Company

[Signature]

Sheri Hill
VP/General Manager
October 19, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As president of George Fox University, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck.

Oregon 99W is extremely important to George Fox University. Reducing traffic – especially truck traffic – in downtown Newberg will improve the student experience, improve safety and help us attract and retain both students and employees.

George Fox is one of the largest employers in Newberg and one of the three largest private colleges in the state. With a Newberg campus enrollment of more than 2,000 and an overall enrollment of 3,500, George Fox plays a significant economic role in Yamhill County. We have approximately 5,500 students, employees, alumni, donors, and parents living in Newberg alone. The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County impacts job creation and the economic well-being of our university and the region.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of construction jobs, but improving the quality of life in the region will result in long-term job creation in higher education. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Robin Baker, PhD
President, George Fox University

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 11, 2011

Mr. David Lohman  
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)  
1158 Chemeketa Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Lohman,

As President of Linfield College, I urge you to support the Tiger III federal grant for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Project. We are very proud of what we’ve been able to build and accomplish at Linfield College, but our growth is severely hampered by the traffic constriction on Highway 99. We have been unable to recruit or retain qualified faculty because many are members of two-career families and depend on access to Portland. Furthermore, the top source of dissatisfaction among our students is not with Linfield itself but rather with access to the Portland metropolitan area. And finally, our nursing program, which graduates the largest number of BSN’s in the state, is located in Portland, not McMinnville. Our faculty and staff travel between the two campuses on a daily basis.

It is only 35 miles from McMinnville to Portland, but it typically takes 75-90 minutes to travel that distance. During rush hour it takes longer. At least 30 minutes (each way) will be saved by the proposed bypass project. If multiplied by the number of days and the number of faculty and staff who regularly make that trip, it will cumulatively save the college 120 working hours per day, or 600 working hours per week. When I factor in compensation costs, productivity improvement, and energy/vehicle savings, the proposed bypass equates to a million dollar savings for Linfield each year—precious dollars we can use for financial aid, employee compensation, and improved programming. It will also improve student and faculty retention at the college, leading to better education and higher graduation rates.

Of course, the project will also help our city and our county in many other ways. Linfield is only one of many beneficiaries. As our tourist industry grows and our population increases, the need for this project becomes even more evident. Thus I urge you to support the Tiger III proposal and the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Project.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas L. Hellie, Ph.D.  
President
October 19, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As the advertising Representative of the Newberg Graphic, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to our city and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Lincoln County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon's fishing industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of our city. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.

Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Denise Bellon
City of Newberg, Oregon

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 14, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

I am the owner and general manager of NW UAV located in the McMinnville area. We manufacture propulsion systems for unmanned aircraft and we currently employ 60 highly-skilled machine operators, technicians and support personnel. Moreover, we have recently purchase a 10-acre industrial site with X square feet of office and factory space. Construction of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 is extremely important to my business. Our ability to deliver quality products to our customers on-time and on-budget depends on the reliable delivery of many component parts that go into the production of our systems. We have asked a number of our suppliers to move to the McMinnville area so that we can have a source for these critical parts. The transportation bottleneck in the Newberg-Dundee area is an impediment to my ability to recruit these suppliers to move to Oregon and bring jobs to our local economy.

With these important economic concerns in mind, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. I understand that these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

This significant reduction in travel time to the Portland area would definitely help me recruit my suppliers to locate in Oregon and would bring good-paying manufacturing jobs to Yamhill County Building Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is critical to the economic health of Yamhill County and would help my business continue to grow and expand.

For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Chris, President
NW UAV
cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 19, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Spirit Mountain Casino in Grand Ronde, the largest employer in the West Valley. Construction of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 is extremely important to our business. The ability of patrons to come to our facility from the Portland metro area depends on our highway system. The transportation bottleneck in the Newberg-Dundee area of Hwy 99W is very significant impediment to potential patrons coming to Spirit Mountain Casino.

With this important economic concern in mind, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. I understand that these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass.

Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by approximately 40 percent. This significant reduction in travel time to the Portland metro area would definitely increase the number of people coming to/from Spirit Mountain. A significant increase in visitors would require adding employees to augment our current number of our employees. This would be a major benefit to our local economy. Building Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is critical to the economic health of the Grand Ronde Reservation and Yamhill County, and would help Spirit Mountain Casino, Oregon’s largest destination resort, to continue to grow and expand.
For these reasons, Spirit Mountain strongly supports the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project and this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Chief Executive Officer,
Spirit Mountain Casino

Cc: SMGI Board of Directors
CTGR Tribal Council
Chris Leno, CTGR Executive Officer
Rob Greene, CTGR Tribal Attorney
October 12, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As CEO of Willamette Valley Medical Center, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to our hospital and the patients it serves. Our facility relies heavily on this corridor to move patients to and from McMinnville and other surrounding communities. This corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to our hospital. Additionally, many elective healthcare services that are not provided by our facility are performed in the Portland Metropolitan Area, and our community members solely rely on this particular route for their appointments.

Construction of this long-awaited project will also help my employees living outside of the McMinnville area more readily respond to the on-call demands of working in a hospital environment. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Ordyna, CEO
Willamette Valley Medical Center

cc: Governor John Kitzhaber
Oregon Transportation Commission
October 11, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for ODOT's TIGER III grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Director Garrett:

As a business owner in McMinnville, I want to express my strong support for the TIGER III grant application for funding for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project. If successful, these TIGER III funds will complete the funding necessary to build Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. Phase 1 will construct a new highway around the cities of Newberg and Dundee effectively reducing the existing Oregon 99W traffic bottleneck by 40 percent.

The Oregon 99W-18 corridor is extremely important to my city and to the entire central Oregon Coast. Our businesses rely heavily on this corridor to move freight and people to and from Lincoln County. Tourism is critical to our local economy and this corridor is the main route from the Portland Metropolitan Area to the coast. Several of the top tourist attractions in Oregon are located along this route: Spirit Mountain Casino, Chinook Winds Casino, and of course, the spectacular Oregon Coast. In addition to tourism, our area is the heart of Oregon’s fishing industry and the Oregon 99W freight route is vital to getting these products to market.

The current traffic jam in the Newberg-Dundee area of Yamhill County is severely impacting job creation and the economic well-being of my city. Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass is truly a transportation project of significance to our entire region from Newport and Lincoln City to Portland.
Construction of this long-awaited project will not only create thousands of well-paid construction jobs, but improving the travel time from Lincoln County to Portland will result in long-term job creation for our fishing and tourism industries. For these reasons, I strongly support this TIGER III funding request for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Phase 1 construction. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

CC: Governor John Kitzhaber
   Oregon Transportation Commission
November 1, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for ODOT’s TIGER III grant application to complete the funding
necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Matt:

We are very pleased to see that you have made Phase 1 of the Newberg/Dundee Bypass a priority project for a TIGER III grant. This $17 million request will complete the funding package to build phase 1.

As you know, a number of legislators made a commitment to our constituents that specific projects will be built if they would support an increase in fuel taxes and fee increases. There is nothing more important for the future of transportation funding in Oregon than completing these specific high profile projects in a timely fashion and exceeding citizens’ expectations.

We cannot express how crucial this project is for the people of Yamhill County, the Metro/Portland region, and the Central Oregon Coast. The existing conditions on Highway 99W cannot be allowed to continue. During this time of economic downturn – instead of new jobs being created – jobs are being lost due to the severe traffic congestion on highway 99W in Newberg and Dundee.

Our constituents in Washington County also rely on the Highway 99W corridor through Newberg and Dundee to connect to the central Oregon Coast for business and recreational purposes. The traffic gridlock in Yamhill County harms business and industry throughout the entire region.

We also want to express how dangerous this state highway has become with sudden and unexpected gridlock, and frustrated drivers seeking alternate routes.

Again we thank you for prioritizing Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass for this TIGER III grant. We wholeheartedly endorse this grant request and look forward to working with you as this important project gets built and we put more Oregonians back to work.

Best regards,

Larry George
State Senator, District 13

Suzanne Bonamici
State Senator, District 17

cc: The Honorable John Kitzhaber, Governor of the State of Oregon
Oregon Transportation Commission
November 7, 2011

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
Oregon State Senator
900 Court Street NE, S-403
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Bonamici:

Thank you for your letter to the Oregon Transportation Commission regarding the proposed Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program application for Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project.

A copy of your letter will be provided to each commissioner and the director.

Thank you again for taking the time to send us your letter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patrick J. Cooney
Communication Administrator

Copies to:
Travis Brouwer
Sonny Chickering
November 1, 2011

Mr. Matthew Garrett, Director
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
1158 Chemeketa Street NE
Salem, Oregon  97301

RE: Support for ODOT's TIGERII grant application to complete the funding necessary to construct Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project

Dear Matt:

We are very pleased to see that you have made Phase 1 of the Newberg/Dundee Bypass a priority project for a TIGERII grant. This $17 million request will complete the funding package to build phase 1.

As you know, a number of legislators made a commitment to our constituents that specific projects will be built if they would support an increase in fuel taxes and fee increases. There is nothing more important for the future of transportation funding in Oregon than completing these specific high profile projects in a timely fashion and exceeding citizens' expectations.

We cannot express how crucial this project is for the people of Yamhill County, the Metro/Portland region, and the Central Oregon Coast. The existing conditions on Highway 99W cannot be allowed to continue. During this time of economic downturn – instead of new jobs being created – jobs are being lost due to the severe traffic congestion on highway 99W in Newberg and Dundee.

Our constituents in Washington County also rely on the Highway 99W corridor through Newberg and Dundee to connect to the central Oregon Coast for business and recreational purposes. The traffic gridlock in Yamhill County harms business and industry throughout the entire region.

We also want to express how dangerous this state highway has become with sudden and unexpected gridlock, and frustrated drivers seeking alternate routes.

Again we thank you for prioritizing Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass for this TIGERII grant. We wholeheartedly endorse this grant request and look forward to working with you as this important project gets built and we put more Oregonians back to work.

Best regards,

Larry George
State Senator, District 13

Suzanne Bonamici
State Senator, District 17

cc: The Honorable John Kitzhaber, Governor of the State of Oregon
Oregon Transportation Commission
November 7, 2011

The Honorable Larry George
Oregon State Senator
900 Court Street NE, S-307
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator George:

Thank you for your letter to the Oregon Transportation Commission regarding the proposed Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program application for Phase 1 of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project.

A copy of your letter will be provided to each commissioner and the director.

Thank you again for taking the time to send us your letter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patrick J. Cooney
Communication Administrator

Copies to:
Travis Brouwer
Sonny Chickering
October 31, 2011

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Newberg and City of Dundee joint TIGER III grant application for phase one construction of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass.

This proposal will help begin construction of an 11-mile, four-lane access controlled expressway (Bypass) with four interchanges. Phase one includes a shorter two-lane bypass and incorporates bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This project will significantly reduce the congestion which afflicts the cities of Newberg and Dundee as motorists travel from the Willamette Valley to the Oregon coast.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Jay Ward in my Portland, Oregon office at (503) 326-7525.

Sincerely,

Ron Wyden
United States Senator