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August 20, 2009

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

Subject: Border Road Improvement Coalition TIGER Grant Application

Dear Secretary LaHood,

On behalf of the Arizona-Mexico Commission (AMC), we are writing in support of the TIGER grant application submitted by the Border Road Improvement Coalition's (BRIC). This organization is a coalition of six local city and county government transportation departments that have joined together to address border road network issues along the southeastern Arizona border with Mexico.

Though sparsely populated, this unique area has a road network with important national security and economic development implications. This region deals with border patrol operations that monitor illegal immigration, drug trafficking and Homeland Security threats.

The local road and pedestrian network was never designed to be utilized by the vast amount of border-related traffic it currently services. This grant will help address critical resurfacing and pedestrian traffic needs facing the region.

Therefore, the AMC extends its full support for the BRIC grant application for this much-needed funding under the Department of Transportation's TIGER grant program, as we believe it will bring great opportunities to the region and the state of Arizona.

Sincerely,

Victor Flores
President

Margie Emmermann
Executive Director

cc: AMC Board of Directors