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May 29, 2013

Assembly California Legislature



WESLEY CHESBRO
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

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

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JUN 03 2013

CITY OF ARCATA
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPT.

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0002
(916) 319-2002
FAX (916) 319-2102

DISTRICT OFFICES
710 E. STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-7014
FAX (707) 445-6607

50 "D" STREET, SUITE 450
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 576-2526
FAX (707) 576-2297

200 SOUTH SCHOOL STREET, SUITE D
UKIAH, CA 95482
(707) 463-5770
FAX (707) 463-5773

RE: Support for City of Arcata TIGER 2013 Discretionary Grant Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing in support of the application for a TIGER 2013 Discretionary Grant submitted by the City of Arcata to assist in funding the Arcata Rail-with-Trail Connectivity Project. The Project will construct, operate, and maintain a 4.5 mile long Class I, non-motorized multiuse trail. The current 2013 TIGER request of \$2.7 million will fund the final phase of the City's Project which will construct 3 miles of multi-use commuter and recreation trail from Arcata to the Highway 101/Bracut intersection.

The Project has brought together a large coalition of local governments, community organizations and citizens to plan and develop final designs to meet the region's vision of a non-motorized, multi-use transportation network. The Project is "construction ready" and identified as the region's top non-motorized transportation project.

The Project will establish the foundational section of non-motorized trail infrastructure to connect the two largest cities of the north coast region, Arcata and Eureka, along the Highway 101 corridor. It will create a needed safe commuter route between Arcata and the Bracut/101 Intersection; currently bicyclists must ride on the shoulder of a four lane highway.

Lastly, the Project will eliminate thousands of motorized vehicle trips annually, reduce emissions, stimulate tourism, and generate immediate jobs for our rural community.

Thank you for your consideration of this most worthwhile project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,


WESLEY CHESBRO
Assemblyman, 2nd District

Cc: Karen Diemer, City of Arcata Environmental Services Deputy Director
Shane Brinton, Mayor of Arcata

