



August 2010

U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C., 20590

RE: Gaylord Business Corridor (GBC) TIGER II application

On behalf of the Northern Lower Michigan Traffic Safety Committee, we hereby pledge our support for the TIGER II application being submitted for the City of Gaylord.

As regional traffic safety advocates, we know how important good infrastructure is related to the quality of life. However, there is an urgent need to save more lives in rural America and specifically within our region! Our local and state transportation officials have done a respectable over the years but the lack of funding is beginning to take a toll on the condition of our roads and bridges and our ability to improve safety.

Our committee is comprised of law enforcement officials from across the region, transportation advocates, county road commissions, school transportation professionals, and community members at large. We meet on a quarterly basis each year to review trends and have dialogue about cutting-edge strategies that ultimately save lives. The only thing we are lacking to make a difference is the money to implement more improvements.

Obtaining the millions of dollars through this grant is truly a life and death situation for the City of Gaylord and the surrounding communities. We are losing way too many people each year in our rural communities and consider it a public health crisis. It's time to make a commitment and help us reduce injuries and save more lives. We hope you are able to give the GBC application the time, attention, and funding that is truly deserves.

Sincerely,

Fred Doelker, co-chair on behalf of the
Executive Committee
Northern Lower Michigan Traffic Safety Committee