

# ***TIGER***

## **Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery**

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# The Recovery Act

- February 17, 2009, the President signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
  - \$1.5 billion of discretionary grant funds to be awarded by the Department of Transportation for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure
    - Preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery
    - Invest in transportation infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits
    - Assist those most affected by the current economic downturn

# Traditional Earmarks

- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) ...”funds provided by Congress for projects or programs where the congressional direction (in bill or report language) circumvents Executive Branch ***merit-based or competitive allocation processes***, or specifies the location or recipient, or otherwise curtails the ability of the Executive Branch to manage critical aspects of the funds allocation process. “

# Earmark Controversy

- Congressional earmarks FY 08 11,780 awards worth **\$18.3 billion**
- Federal funds should **NOT** be part of the legislative appropriations process
- Tax money should be applied by Federal agencies according to **objective findings of need** and carefully **constructed requests** rather than being earmarked arbitrarily by elected officials
  - Elected officials have a ***vested interest*** in their district and do not have the Nation's interests as a whole in mind when making these decisions with taxpayer money
  - Citizens Against Government Waste **”Pork Projects”**
    - 2,658 earmarks equaling \$13.2 billion (FY 08)
    - 9,963 earmarks equaling \$29 billion (FY 06)

# Competitive Grant Awards

- Merit/Evidence-Based
- Defined Selection Criteria
- Project Description and Justification
- Evaluation of Outcomes
- Long-Term Economic Sustainability
- Regulatory Compliance

# TIGER Awards

- *Competitive* basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region
- Award Maximum: \$300,000,000/project
- Award Minimum: \$20,000,000/project
  - Waiver required of the \$20,000,000 minimum grant size for projects in smaller cities, regions, or States

# TIGER Awards continued...

- Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement
  - The Federal share of the costs up to **100 %**
  - Priority to projects that require a contribution of Federal funds in order to complete an overall financing package
- Equitable geographic distribution of **urban** and **rural** communities
- ≤20% of funds will be awarded to projects in a single State
- Projects completed by **February 17, 2012**

# Projects Eligible for Funding

- Highway or Bridge Projects (under Title 23 US Code)
  - Interstate rehabilitation
  - Improvements to the rural collector road system
  - Reconstruction of overpasses and interchanges
  - Bridge replacements
  - Seismic retrofit projects for bridges and road realignments
- Public Transportation Projects (Ch. 53 of Title 49 US Code)
  - Projects participating in the New Starts or Small Starts programs that will expedite the completion and entry into revenue service
  - Passenger and freight rail transportation projects
  - Port infrastructure investments projects that connect ports to other modes of transportation and improve the efficiency of freight movement



# **TIGER Selection Criteria**

*Evidence-Based Research*

# Long-Term

- State of Good Repair: Improve the condition of existing transportation facilities and systems, with an emphasis on projects that minimize life-cycle costs
- Economic Competitiveness: Contribute to the economic competitiveness of the US over the medium to long-term
- Livability: Improve the *quality of living* and working environments and the experience for people in communities
- Sustainability :
  - Improve energy efficiency
  - reduce dependence on oil
  - reduce greenhouse gas emissions and benefit the environment
  - Increase efficient flow of traffic due to dispersal on alternate routes
  - Improved pedestrian access and mobility
- Safety: Improve the safety of US transportation systems

# Long-Term continued...

- Job Creation & Economic Stimulus
  - **QUICKLY** create and preserve jobs, stimulate rapid increases in economic activity (jobs and activity that benefit **economically distressed** areas )
- Innovation
  - Project designed to pursue  $\geq 1$  of the long-term outcomes and/or enhance the transportation system
- Partnerships
  - Strong collaboration among a broad range of participants and/or integration of transportation with other public service efforts
- State and Local Planning
- Technical Feasibility
- Financial Feasibility
- Project Schedule
- Legislative Approvals

# **Our Application**

*Proactive vs. Reactive*

# **Joint Grant Applicant**

- City of Gaylord
- Otsego County Road Commission
- I-75 Crossing Task Force

# **Project Leadership**

## ***I-75 Crossing Task Force***

- Otsego County
- City of Gaylord
- Bagley Township
- Livingston Township
- Hayes Township
- NEMCOG
- MDOT North Region
- Otsego County Road Commission
- Otsego County Economic Alliance

# Gaylord Area: Otsego County

- Economically Distressed Area
  - Per Capita Income
    - Average **\$28,063**, which is 73% of National Average at \$38,615
    - Maximum of 80% allowed
  - Unemployment Rate (24 mo. Avg. thru 5/09)
    - **10.61%**, which is 4.73% greater than the National Average at 5.88%

# Project Goals

- Address M-32 congestion problem by completing the projects called for in the I-75 Crossing Study
- Complete projects that are complementary to the I-75 Crossing projects and planned by the City of Gaylord, Bagley and Livingston Township to improve the West M-32 Downtown and South Otsego Avenue corridors
- Link project improvements to economic development in 3 commercial districts and the Milbocker industrial area
- Link projects to improving quality of life and increasing roadway safety



# Proposed Projects: \$35 Million

- Van Tyle-South Wisconsin Overpass
- McVannel Extension
- Van Tyle-McVannel to Dickerson
- Milbocker Road
- McCoy-Krys to M-32
- Mankowski Service Road Extension
- Project Pedestrian: South Otsego
- Project Pedestrian: M-32 Downtown
- West M-32 Streetscape and Pathway
- M-32 Access Management
- System-Wide Signal Light Timing Coordination

# Letter/Resolution Request

- Otsego County
- City of Gaylord
- Gaylord Chamber of Commerce
- **Townships :Bagley, Charlton, Chester, Elmira, Corwith, Dover, Hayes, Livingston, and Otsego Lake, Village of Vanderbilt**
- Otsego County Road Commission
- Otsego County Housing Committee
- Gaylord Regional Airport
- City of Gaylord Downtown Development Authority
- Otsego County Bus System
- Commission on Aging
- Otsego County Economic Alliance
- Emergency Medical Service
- City Police Department
- County Police Department
- Michigan State Police
- Fire Department
- Senator Levin
- Senator Stabenaw
- House Representative Stupak
- Senator Stamas
- House Representative Elsenheimer
- MDOT (North Region)
- NEMCOG
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): Informed Only

***Any Questions???***

