



OTSEGO COUNTY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

1062 Cross Street • Gaylord, Michigan 49735

989-731-0288 • 989-731-0289 FAX • jeff@gaylord-otsego.com • www.gaylord-otsego.com

OUR MISSION

To facilitate economic growth in Otsego County through a public/private partnership that maintains economic vitality and stimulates economic growth while preserving the quality of life.

CHAIRPERSON

Regan Quaal

President, Albite's Foods, Inc.

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Jack Thompson

*Executive Director,
University Center at Gaylord*

SECRETARY

Mary Sanders

Supervisor, Hayes Township

TREASURER

Joe Duff

City Manager, City of Gaylord

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Beachnau

*Executive Director,
Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce*

John Burt

Administrator, Otsego County

Jack Card

President, NCCI-Wolgast

Kevin Drummond

Store Manager, Wal-Mart Supercenter

Dale Gehman

*Account Manager,
Telephone Support Systems*

Keith Gornick

President, KHG Holdings, Inc.

Todd Gregory

Community President, Citizens Bank

Tim Hall

*Vice President / Market Manager,
Northwestern Bank*

Jay Jacobs

Area Manager, Consumers Energy

Doug Johnson

President, Mid-North Printing, Inc.

Kevin Johnson

President, Johnson Oil Company

William D. Marshall

CEO, Crossroads Industries, Inc.

Bill Martella

Manager, Coldwell Banker Schmidt Realtors

Lori Reichard

Vice President, Fifth Third Bank

Darren Rhoads

Senior Vice President, Independent Bank

Timothy Timmer

Vice President Commercial Lending, mBank

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeff Ratcliffe

Resolution of Support

WHEREAS rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord; and

WHEREAS several studies of the Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor have been completed, recommendations developed, and project planning undertaken to begin to address the traffic congestion and its negative impact on the existing infrastructure, local economic development efforts, quality of life, environment, and safety; and

WHEREAS a group of local leaders in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation have been able to make substantial progress towards implementing the recommendations of these studies including coordinated land use planning, access management on all new development, construction of a new east-west crossing of I-75, and improvement of four of ten identified road segments; and

WHEREAS plans call for the construction of a second I-75 crossing, improvements to six additional road segments, access management improvements to an existing segment of West M-32, the reconfiguration of both M-32 in the Central Business District and South Otsego Avenue (Business Loop 75) to improve pedestrian and vehicular access, construction of traffic calming streetscape elements along the West M-32 Commercial District, and installation of a state of the art traffic signal light timing system to connect all lights in the corridor system; and

WHEREAS the economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete these projects in a timely manner; and

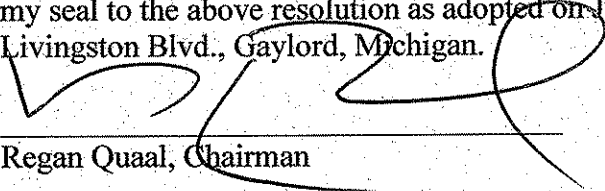
WHEREAS the United States Department of Transportation is making available funding through the TIGER Discretionary Grant program to implement projects such as those being proposed and undertaken in Otsego County; and

WHEREAS in order to fully implement the planned long-term improvements to the overall transportation infrastructure serving the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, create long-term economic benefits by supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area, promoting a more environmentally sustainable transportation system, and increasing the safety of

the traveling public in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission are applying for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Otsego County Economic Alliance Board of Directors supports the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding.

I, Regan Quaal, Chairman of the Otsego County Economic Alliance, Inc., do hereby certify and set my seal to the above resolution as adopted on July 13, 2009 at the University Center of Gaylord, 80 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord, Michigan.



Regan Quaal, Chairman



**Gaylord Area
Chamber of Commerce**

101 West Main Street • PO Box 513 • Gaylord, Michigan 49734
(989) 732-6333 • Fax (989) 732-7990 • Information Center (989) 732-4000 • www.gaylordchamber.com

Resolution of Support
TIGER Grant

WHEREAS rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord; and

WHEREAS several studies of the Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor have been completed, recommendations developed, and project planning undertaken to begin to address the traffic congestion and its negative impact on the existing infrastructure, local economic development efforts, quality of life, environment, and safety; and

WHEREAS a group of local leaders in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation have been able to make substantial progress towards implementing the recommendations of these studies including coordinated land use planning, access management on all new development, construction of a new east-west crossing of I-75, and improvement of four of ten identified road segments; and

WHEREAS plans call for the construction of a second I-75 crossing, improvements to six additional road segments, access management improvements to an existing segment of West M-32, the reconfiguration of both M-32 in the Central Business District and South Otsego Avenue (Business Loop 75) to improve pedestrian and vehicular access, construction of traffic calming streetscape elements along the West M-32 Commercial District, and installation of a state of the art traffic signal light timing system to connect all lights in the corridor system; and

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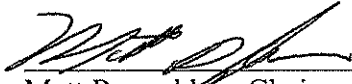
WHEREAS the United States Department of Transportation is making available funding through the TIGER Discretionary Grant program to implement projects such as those being proposed and undertaken in Otsego County; and

WHEREAS in order to fully implement the planned long-term improvements to the overall transportation infrastructure serving the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, create long-term economic benefits by supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area, promoting a more environmentally sustainable transportation system, and increasing the safety of the traveling public in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission are applying for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant program.

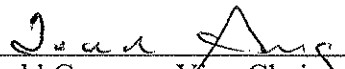
WHEREAS improvements to the transportation and pedestrian access infrastructure in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor impacts the county-wide road system, economy, quality of life, environment and safety.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce supports the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding.

Adopted by the Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, at its meeting held on Tuesday, July 28, 2009.



Matt Rooyakker, Chairman



Todd Gregory, Vice-Chairman

Resolution of Support

WHEREAS rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord; and

WHEREAS several studies of the Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor have been completed, recommendations developed, and project planning undertaken to begin to address the traffic congestion and its negative impact on the existing infrastructure, local economic development efforts, quality of life, environment, and safety; and

WHEREAS a group of local leaders in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation have been able to make substantial progress towards implementing the recommendations of these studies including coordinated land use planning, access management on all new development, construction of a new east-west crossing of I-75, and improvement of four of ten identified road segments; and

WHEREAS plans call for the construction of a second I-75 crossing, improvements to six additional road segments, access management improvements to an existing segment of West M-32, the reconfiguration of both M-32 in the Central Business District and South Otsego Avenue (Business Loop 75) to improve pedestrian and vehicular access, construction of traffic calming streetscape elements along the West M-32 Commercial District, and installation of a state of the art traffic signal light timing system to connect all lights in the corridor system; and

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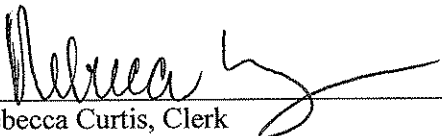
WHEREAS the United States Department of Transportation is making available funding through the TIGER Discretionary Grant program to implement projects such as those being proposed and undertaken in Otsego County; and

WHEREAS in order to fully implement the planned long-term improvements to the overall transportation infrastructure serving the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, create long-term economic benefits by supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area, promoting a more environmentally sustainable transportation system, and increasing the safety of the traveling public in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission are applying for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant program.

WHEREAS improvements to the transportation and pedestrian access infrastructure in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor impacts the county-wide road system, economy, quality of life, environment and safety.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City of Gaylord Downtown Development Authority supports the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding.

I, Rebecca Curtis, Clerk of the Downtown Development Authority, do hereby certify and set my seal to the above resolution as adopted July 14, 2009, at the Gaylord City Hall, 305 East Main Street, Gaylord, Michigan.


Rebecca Curtis, Clerk

Resolution of Support

WHEREAS rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord; and

WHEREAS several studies of the Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor have been completed, recommendations developed, and project planning undertaken to begin to address the traffic congestion and its negative impact on the existing infrastructure, local economic development efforts, quality of life, environment, and safety; and

WHEREAS a group of local leaders in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation have been able to make substantial progress towards implementing the recommendations of these studies including coordinated land use planning, access management on all new development, construction of a new east-west crossing of I-75, and improvement of four of ten identified road segments; and

WHEREAS plans call for the construction of a second I-75 crossing, improvements to six additional road segments, access management improvements to an existing segment of West M-32, the reconfiguration of both M-32 in the Central Business District and South Otsego Avenue (Business Loop I-75) to improve pedestrian and vehicular access, construction of traffic calming streetscape elements along the West M-32 Commercial District, and installation of a state of the art traffic signal light timing system to connect all lights in the corridor system; and

WHEREAS the economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete these projects in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS the United States Department of Transportation is making available funding through the TIGER Discretionary Grant program to implement projects such as those being proposed and undertaken in Otsego County; and

WHEREAS in order to fully implement the planned long-term improvements to the overall transportation infrastructure serving the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, create long-term economic benefits by supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area, promoting a more environmentally sustainable transportation system, and increasing the safety of the traveling public in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission are applying for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Otsego County Planning Commission supports the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding.

I, Randy Stults, Chairman of the Otsego County Planning Commission, do hereby certify and set my seal to the above resolution as adopted on August 17, 2009 at the Alpine Center, 800 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord, Michigan.



Randy Stults, Chairman

**GAYLORD AREA
COOPERATIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE**
Bagley Township, City of Gaylord, Livingston Township, Otsego County

Resolution of Support

WHEREAS rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord; and

WHEREAS several studies of the Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor have been completed, recommendations developed, and project planning undertaken to begin to address the traffic congestion and its negative impact on the existing infrastructure, local economic development efforts, quality of life, environment, and safety; and

WHEREAS a group of local leaders in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation have been able to make substantial progress towards implementing the recommendations of these studies including coordinated land use planning, access management on all new development, construction of a new east-west crossing of I-75, and improvement of four of ten identified road segments; and

WHEREAS plans call for the construction of a second I-75 crossing, improvements to six additional road segments, access management improvements to an existing segment of West M-32, the reconfiguration of both M-32 in the Central Business District and South Otsego Avenue (Business Loop I-75) to improve pedestrian and vehicular access, construction of traffic calming streetscape elements along the West M-32 Commercial District, and installation of a state of the art traffic signal light timing system to connect all lights in the corridor system; and

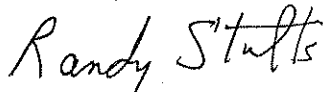
WHEREAS the economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete these projects in a timely manner; and

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WHEREAS in order to fully implement the planned long-term improvements to the overall transportation infrastructure serving the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, create long-term economic benefits by supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area, promoting a more environmentally sustainable transportation system, and increasing the safety of the traveling public in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission are applying for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaylord Area Cooperative Planning Committee supports the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding.

I, Randy Stults, Chairman of the Gaylord Area Cooperative Planning Committee, do hereby certify and set my seal to the above resolution as adopted on August 26, 2009 at the Alpine Center, 800 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord, Michigan.



Randy Stults, Chairman



Northeast Michigan Council of Governments

121 E. Mitchell St. * P.O. Box 457
Gaylord, MI 49734
Voice: 989.732.3551
Fax: 989.732.5578
Web: www.nemcog.org

August 3, 2009

Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord Michigan 49735

An
Equal
Opportunity
Employer

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Roper & Mr. Duff:

I am writing in support of your joint application for a TIGER Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) has supported several local studies of the Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor to address the congestion on M-32 at I-75 caused by the rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan as well as other transportation related development issues in the City of Gaylord. These studies have resulted in a number of recommendations being developed in conjunction with other local project planning initiatives designed to address the traffic congestion and its negative impacts on the environment, existing transportation infrastructure, economic development efforts and safety.

NEMCOG continues to partner with the Otsego County Road Commission, the City of Gaylord, and the I-75 Crossing Task Force to implement the suggested recommendations. Your ongoing efforts to secure funding to undertake projects including access management strategies, construction of the I-75 east-west crossing, improvements on identified road segments, as well as the development of plans for the South Otsego Avenue and Downtown corridor are critical to making the necessary long-term improvements to the Gaylord transportation system.

The current economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete these projects in a timely manner. We support your initiative in applying for funds through the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant program in an effort to implement the necessary transportation infrastructure projects and will continue to work with you to facilitate their undertaking. These projects will not only result in vital improvements to the access and

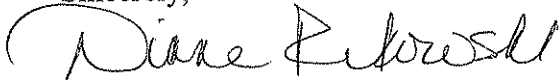
Regional
Cooperation
Since
1968

Alcona * Alpena * Cheboygan * Crawford * Emmet * Montmorency * Oscoda * Otsego * Presque Isle

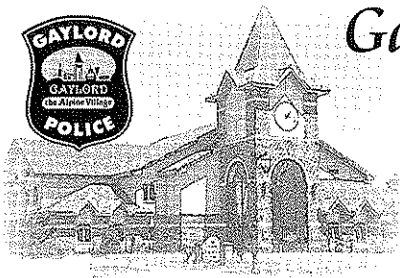
mobility issues facing the community, but will provide both immediate and long-term economic benefits. These benefits will be evident through the development of an environmentally sustainable transportation system, and the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, as well as improvement in the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area and increased safety in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor.

I am pleased to endorse the City of Gaylord and Otsego County TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and look forward to the continued partnership with you and the I-75 Crossing Task Force.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Rekowski". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Diane Rekowski
Executive Director



Gaylord
Police Department

305 E. Main Street
Gaylord, MI 49735
989.732.1777
989.732.1779 Fax

August 12, 2009

Mike Roper, Manager Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, MI 49735

Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord, MI 49735

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Roper & Mr. Duff:

I am writing in support of your joint application for a TIGER Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord. Traffic congestion and a decaying and inefficient transportation system has increased the response time for fire rescue vehicles, ambulances, the police and other emergency response vehicles in Otsego County. Emergency vehicles get caught in traffic back-ups along with everyone else and are at risk of being involved in speed-related collisions at roadway departures, intersections and with pedestrians. Relieving the congestion within the Gaylord I-75 Business Corridor will reduce the potential for incident-related delays and improve emergency response time, thus saving lives, protecting property, and improving overall public safety. In addition, an improved transportation infrastructure and decreases in congestion will free up public safety resources to fight crime, fight fires, and respond to non-crash-related medical emergencies.

The current economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete essential transportation projects within Otsego County. We support your initiative in applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant funding in an effort to complete the necessary transportation infrastructure projects and will continue to work with you to facilitate their undertaking.

I am please to endorse the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and look forward to our continued partnership with you.

Sincerely,

Chief Joseph FitzGerald
Gaylord Police Department

OTSEGO COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

PO BOX 954
GAYLORD MI 49734-0954

August 20, 2009

Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord Michigan 49735

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Roper & Mr. Duff:

I am writing in support of your joint application for a TIGER Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord. Traffic congestion and a decaying and inefficient transportation system has increased the response time for fire vehicles, ambulances, the police and other emergency response vehicles in Otsego County. Emergency vehicles get caught in traffic back-ups along with the firefighters responding to the fire station to get the fire trucks. The firefighters for Otsego County Fire Department are all paid on call and respond from their jobs or homes for fire runs. Everyone is at risk of being involved in speed-related collisions at roadway departures, intersections, and with pedestrians. Relieving the congestion within the Gaylord I-75 Business Corridor will reduce the potential for incident-related delays and improve emergency response time, thus saving lives, protecting property, and improving overall public safety. National studies prove that a fire doubles in size every minute, so response time getting to the fire station to get the fire trucks to respond to a fire is very important. When the crossing is built at Van Tyle road and I-75 will create a very important way for the Otsego County Fire Department to by-pass the traffic back-up at I-75 and M-32. This will also change the response time to the Otsego County Airport from seven (7) minutes to two (2) minutes. In addition, an improved transportation infrastructure and decreases in congestion will free up all public safety resources to fight fires, fight crime, and respond to non-crash-related medical emergencies.

The current economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete essential transportation projects within Otsego County. We support your initiative in applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant funding in an effort to complete the necessary transportation infrastructure projects and will continue to work with you to facilitate their undertaking.

I am pleased to endorse the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and look forward to the our continued partnership with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Duffield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

David M Duffield, Chief
Otsego County Fire Department

OTSEGO COUNTY EMS RESCUE

P.O. BOX 642, 100McLOUTH ROAD
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49734
989-732-9085 989-732-9497 FAX
www.ocems.com

August 3, 2009

Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord Michigan 49735

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Roper & Mr. Duff:

I am writing in support of your joint application for a TIGER Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

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The current economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete essential transportation projects within Otsego County. We support your initiative in applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant funding in an effort to complete the necessary transportation infrastructure projects and will continue to work with you to facilitate their undertaking.

I am pleased to endorse the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and look forward to the our continued partnership with you.

Sincerely,

Jon Deming

Chief of Otsego County EMS Rescue



Michael F. Thompson
Otsego County Emergency Management/9-1-1
580 S. Otsego Ave.
Gaylord, MI 49735
989.732.6670 office 989.705.7341 fax
MThompson@otsegocountymi.gov

July 28, 2009

Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord Michigan 49735

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

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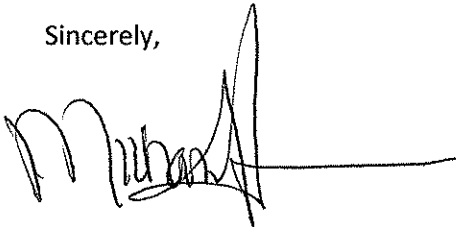
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The current economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels to complete essential transportation projects

within Otsego County. We support your initiative in applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant funding in an effort to complete the necessary transportation infrastructure projects and will continue to work with you to facilitate their undertaking.

I am pleased to endorse the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and look forward to the our continued partnership with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael F. Thompson
Director, Otsego County Emergency Management / 9-1-1



Otsego
C O U N T Y
M I C H I G A N

August 05, 2009

Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Mi 49735

Joe Duff, City manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord, Mi 49735

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

I am writing in support of your joint application for a Tiger Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The rapid growth and development in Otsego County has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32, as well as the main thorough-fares of the city. The traffic congestion problem and its negative impact on the existing transportation infrastructure has created time delays, as well as safety issues for the public.

These projects will not only result in vital improvements to the mobility concerns facing our community, but will provide both immediate and long-term economic benefits for our passengers. This will lead to improvements in the quality of life for the residents and visitors of Otsego County.

We transport as many as 100,000 passengers per year. Of that, as much as 60 % are seniors and/or disabled. They rely on us for their medical transportation, as well as daily functions and shopping trips. We also, carry students to and from school, and after-school functions. Their safety is our number one priority. We also provide meals to those that are shut-in, and otherwise may not receive the proper nutrition or that extra "check".

We support your initiative in applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant in an effort to complete the necessary transportation infrastructure, and will continue to work with you to make this happen. The current economic conditions in the State of Michigan, as well as in Otsego County have made it difficult to secure the necessary funding at both the state and federal levels.

I am pleased to endorse the City of Gaylord and the Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and am looking forward to our continued partnership with you.

Sincerely,
Theron Higgins, OCBS

August 20, 2009

Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

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I am writing in support of your joint application for a TIGER Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord.

Traffic congestion and a decaying and inefficient transportation system has increased the response time for fire rescue vehicles, ambulances, the police and other emergency response vehicles in Otsego County. Emergency vehicles get caught in traffic backups and are at risk of being involved in speed-related collisions at roadway departures, intersections, and with pedestrians. Relieving the congestion within the Gaylord I-75 Business Corridor will reduce the potential for incident-related delays and improve emergency response time, thus saving lives, protecting property, and improving overall public health. In addition, an improved transportation infrastructure and decreases in congestion will free up public safety resources to fight crime, fires, and respond to non-crash related medical emergencies.

The current economic conditions in the state of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local levels. We support your initiative in applying for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant.

I am pleased to support the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Lemon', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas R. Lemon, CEO

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Otsego County Housing Committee, held in Room 100 of the County Building, 225 W. Main St., Gaylord, Michigan on the 20th day of August 2009 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bates, Glasser, Harden, Riozzi, Warsaw

ABSENT: Mathis, Vinecki

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Committee Member: Clark Bates.

OCR 09-01
Resolution of Support
Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)
Otsego County Housing Committee
August 20, 2009

WHEREAS, rapid growth and development in Otsego County and Northern Michigan has led to increased traffic congestion on M-32 at I-75 in the City of Gaylord; and

WHEREAS, several studies of Gaylord/I-75 transportation corridor have been completed, recommendations developed, and project planning undertaken to begin to address the traffic congestion and its negative impact on the existing infrastructure, local economic development efforts, quality of life, environment, and safety; and

WHEREAS, a group of local leaders in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation have been able to make substantial progress towards implementing the recommendations of these studies including coordinated land use planning, access management on all new development, construction of a new east-west crossing of I-75, and improvement of four (4) of ten (10) identified road segments; and

WHEREAS, plans call for the construction of a second I-75 crossing, improvements to six (6) additional road segments, access management improvements to an existing segment of West M-32, the reconfiguration of both M-32 in the Central Business District and South Otsego Avenue (Business Loop 75) to improve pedestrian and vehicular access, construction of traffic calming streetscape elements along the West M-32 Commercial District; and installation of a state of the art traffic signal light timing system to connect all lights in the corridor system; and

WHEREAS, the economic conditions in the State of Michigan and Otsego County have made it increasingly difficult to secure funding at both the state and local level to complete these projects in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation is making available funding through the TIGER Discretionary Grant program to implement projects such as those being proposed and undertaken in Otsego County; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully implement the planned long-term improvements to the overall transportation infrastructure serving the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, create long-term economic benefits by supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of quality, high wage jobs and business enterprises, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Gaylord area, promoting a more environmentally sustainable transportation system, and increasing the safety of the traveling public in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor, the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission are applying for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant program.

WHEREAS, improvements to the transportation and pedestrian access infrastructure in the Gaylord/I-75 Corridor impacts the county-wide road system, economy, quality of life, environment and safety, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Otsego County Housing Committee supports the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funding.

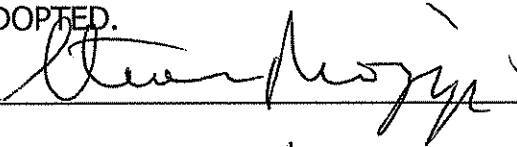
A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

YES: Bates, Glasser, Harden, Riozzi, Warsaw

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

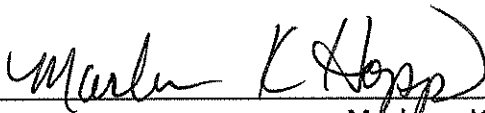
THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.


Steve Riozzi, Chairman

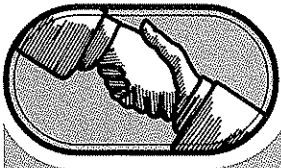

Marlene K. Hopp, Housing Director

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTY OF OTSEGO)

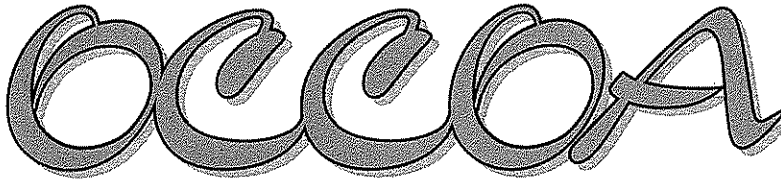
The undersigned, being the duly qualified and Director of the County of Otsego Housing Committee, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Otsego County Housing Committee at its regular meeting held on the 20th day of August, 2009, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout and that an original thereof is on file in the records of the County. I further certify that the meeting was conducted, and public notice thereof was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of such meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.


Marlene K. Hopp, Housing Director

DATED: August 20, 2009



*We Help.
We Care.*



OTSEGO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

120 Grandview Blvd. ♦ Gaylord, Michigan 49735

989-732-1122 ♦ Fax: 989-731-2739 ♦ occoa@occoaonline.org ♦ www.OtsegoCountyCOA.org

August 18, 2009

Mr. Joe Duff, City Manager
City of Gaylord
305 East Main Street
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

Mr. Mike Roper, Managing Director
Otsego County Road Commission
P.O. Box 537
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

RE: USDOT TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duff & Mr. Roper:

On behalf of the Otsego County Commission on Aging, we are writing to extend our support of your joint application for a TIGER Discretionary Grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation.

We are very pleased that the TIGER grant application takes into account the current and future needs of our aging population.

The City of Gaylord has already been recognized as a Michigan Community for a Lifetime by the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging. We look forward to the infrastructure improvements that will enhance community assets that speak to livability for all generations, expand transportation options, ensure safety for walk-ability and bike-ability, and provide the safe access and connectivity to major businesses and gathering places in our community that add quality to life.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Director*
Dale A. Gehman *Director*

In summary, we are pleased to endorse the City of Gaylord and Otsego County Road Commission TIGER grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation and we thank you for your diligent efforts for continuous quality improvements in our community.

Sincerely,



Jack Thompson
OCCOA Board President



Dona J. Wishart
Executive Director