

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 27, 2015

The Honorable Susan M. Collins
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and
Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Dirksen 184
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and
Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Hart 125
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Collins and Ranking Member Reed:

As the Subcommittee begins its consideration of the Fiscal Year 2016 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we write in support of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program and urge the inclusion of robust funding for this important program. We have long supported investments that tackle the complex transportation needs of our communities through the TIGER program.

Since its creation in 2009, TIGER has awarded \$4.1 billion to 342 innovative, multimodal projects in every state in the nation, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. As a result, critical investments have been made in road, rail, transit, and port projects of regional and national significance.

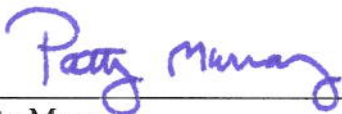
Year after year, the demand for TIGER far exceeds the amount of funding available. In 2014, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) received 797 applications requesting more than \$9.5 billion in funding for the sixth round of the program. This amounted to 15 times more than the \$600 million included in the Fiscal Year 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

TIGER is a unique, cost-effective, and competitive program that leverages private, state, and local investment to solve complex transportation and economic development challenges. For every federal dollar invested, an average of two non-federal dollars goes into a TIGER project.

This program serves as an important complement to DOT's traditional formula-based programs, providing flexibility for state and local agencies to work with partners to achieve creative transportation solutions. We have all seen firsthand the difference TIGER can make in our states.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical program, which puts people to work, boosts regional economies, and improves our nation's infrastructure.

Sincerely,



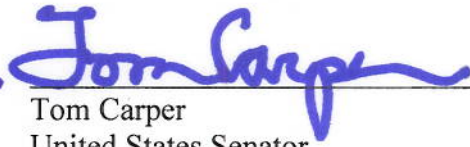
Patty Murray
United States Senator



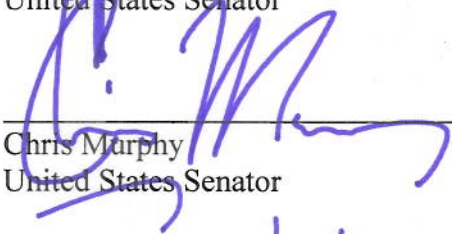
Dick Durbin
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



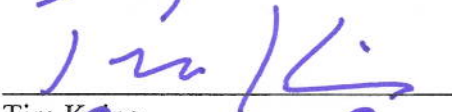
Tom Carper
United States Senator



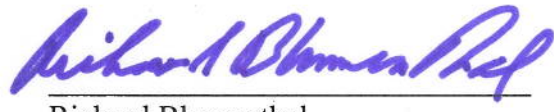
Chris Murphy
United States Senator



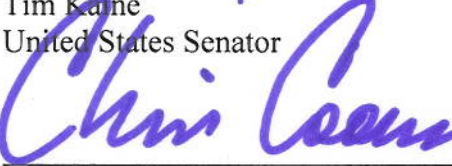
Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



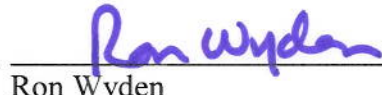
Chris Coons
United States Senator



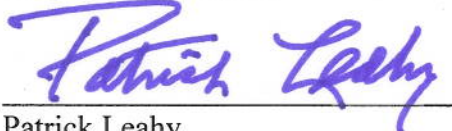
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



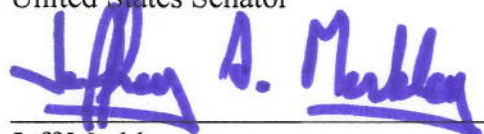
Cory Booker
United States Senator



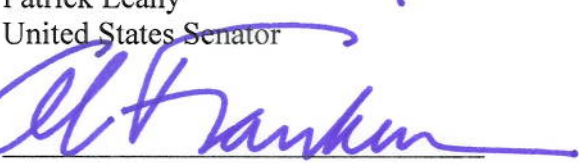
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



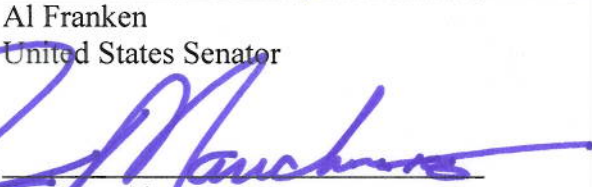
Jeff Merkley
United States Senator



Al Franken
United States Senator



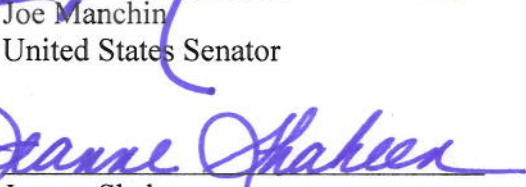
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



Joe Manchin
United States Senator



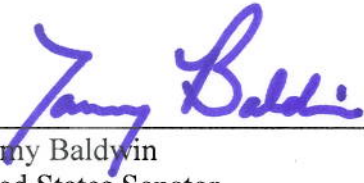
Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



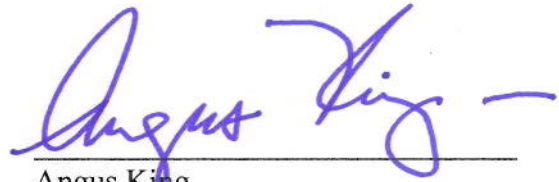
Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



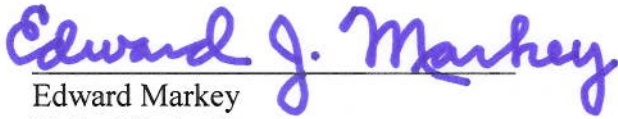
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



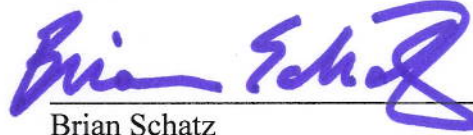
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Angus King
United States Senator



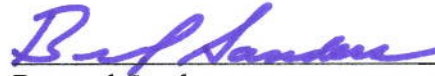
Edward Markey
United States Senator



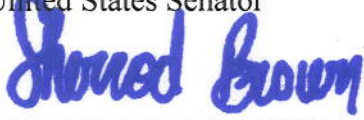
Brian Schatz
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



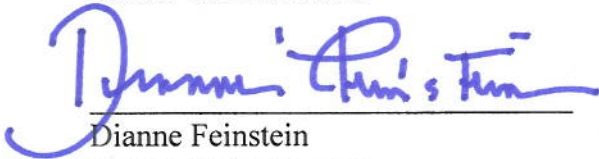
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Mark Warner
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator