

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 7, 2017

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 2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we write in support of the National Infrastructure Investments program (TIGER) and urge the inclusion of robust funding for this effective program. We have long supported investments that tackle the complex multimodal transportation needs of our communities through the TIGER program, and we are disappointed that the program was eliminated in the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Blueprint.

Since its creation in 2009, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has awarded \$5.1 billion to 421 innovative, multimodal projects in every state in the nation, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. Of these, more than 140 projects supported rural and tribal communities. As a result, critical investments have been made in road, rail, transit, and port projects of regional and national significance.

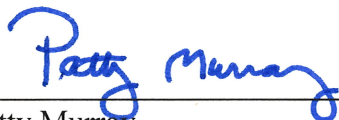
Each year the demand for TIGER far exceeds the amount of funding available. In 2016, DOT received 585 applications from all 50 states requesting \$9.3 billion in funding for the eighth round of the program. This amounted to almost 20 times more than the \$500 million included in the Fiscal Year 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 114-113). Over the life of the program, DOT has received more than 7,300 applications for more than \$165 billion in transportation projects throughout the country, which clearly demonstrates the need for continued investment in the TIGER program.

TIGER is a unique, cost-effective, and competitive program that uses outcome oriented selection criteria and leverages private, state, and local investment to solve complex multimodal transportation and economic development challenges. For every federal dollar invested, an average of two non-federal dollars goes into a TIGER project. In 2016, the \$500 million included in the Fiscal Year 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act supported \$1.74 billion in overall transportation investments.

This program serves as an important complement to DOT's 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



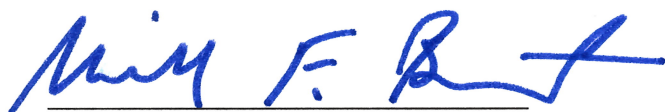
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



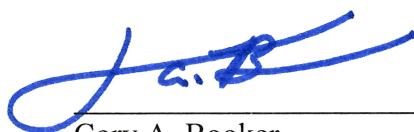
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



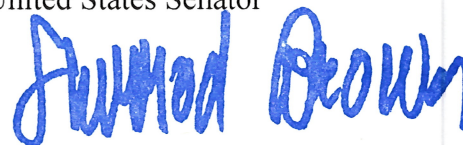
Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



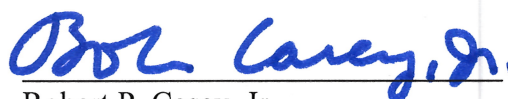
Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



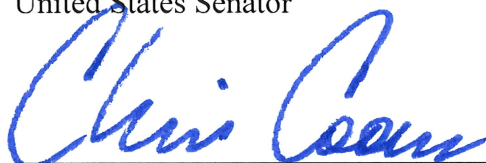
Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



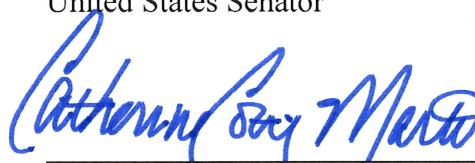
Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator



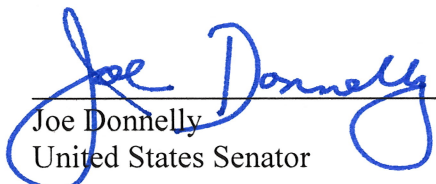
Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

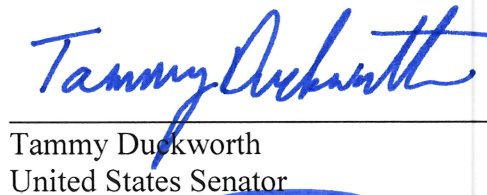


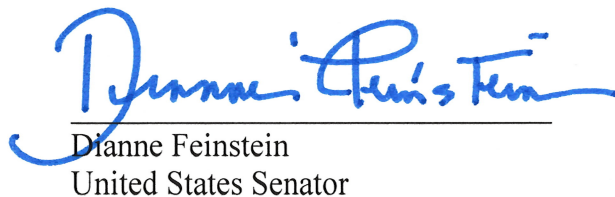
Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator

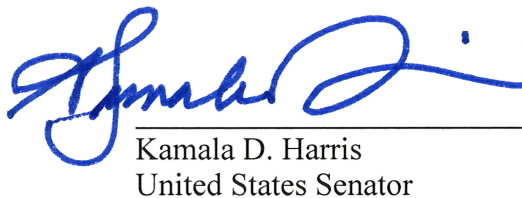
  
Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator

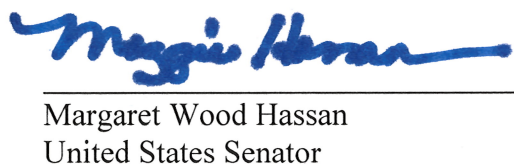
  
Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

  
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

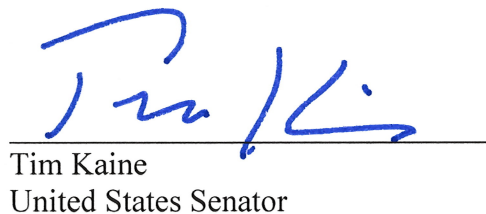
  
Al Franken  
United States Senator

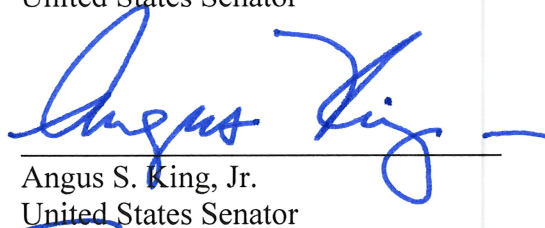
  
Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator

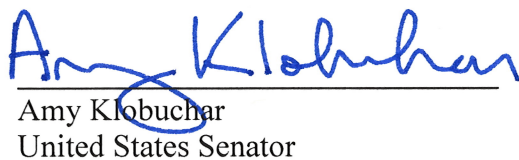
  
Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator

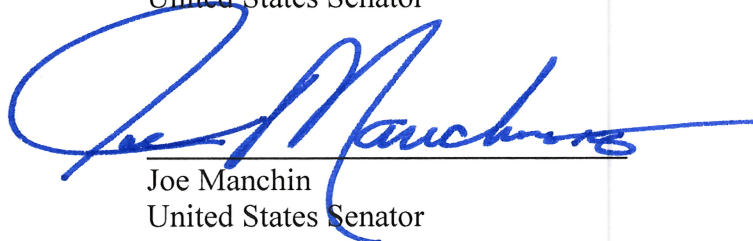
  
Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator

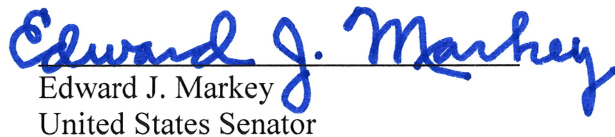
  
Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator

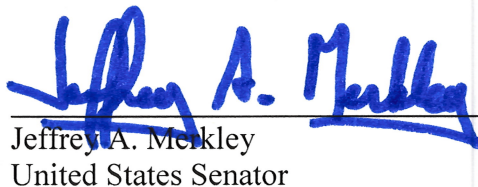
  
Tim Kaine  
United States Senator

  
Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

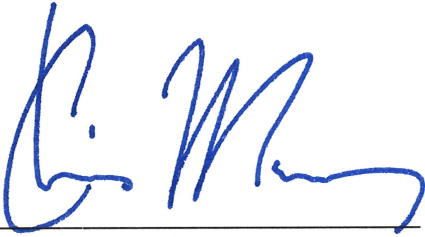
  
Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator

  
Joe Manchin  
United States Senator

  
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator

  
Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator






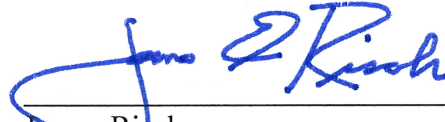
Christopher Murphy  
United States Senator



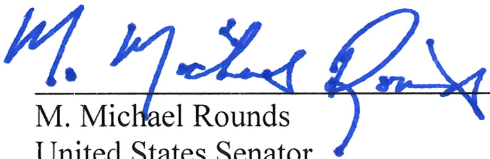
Bill Nelson  
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



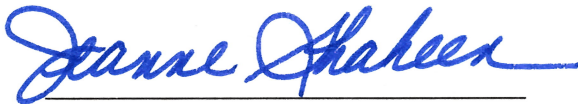
James Risch  
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



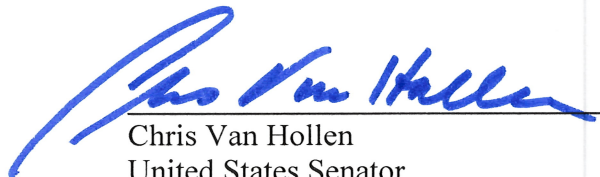
Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



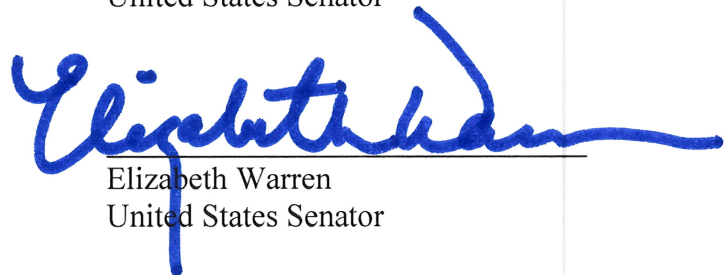
Jon Tester  
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator