Appendix D

Support Letters

October 14, 2011

Ray LaHood
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

TIGER Discretionary Grant for the Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project in Montana

Dear Secretary LaHood:

It is with pleasure that I write in support of the TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for the Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project. The states of Montana and Wyoming, numerous federal agencies as well as local governments have worked in collaboration to ensure the long-term success of this beautiful highway. The outstanding quality of this unique route has been demonstrated for many years.

The Beartooth Highway was constructed to provide access as the northern gateway to Yellowstone National Park. This project will update the highway to current design and safety standards and will complete a link in the transportation system that is crucial for the economic health of nearby communities in Montana and Wyoming.

The Beartooth Highway Steering Committee now has four shovel-ready construction projects that could utilize TIGER III funding if it can be secured.

Thank you for your attention to this application. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information to assist you with your decision.

Sincerely,

Jon Tester
United States Senator

Matthew H. Mead
Governor

Wyoming
Department of Transportation

"Providing a safe, high quality, and efficient transportation system"
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340

John F. Cox
Director

March 7, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project TIGER IV Grant Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Wyoming Department of Transportation is pleased to submit and support the Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project TIGER IV grant application. This project is part of a long-term cooperative effort among the state departments of transportation for Wyoming and Montana as well as several federal and other state agencies, county governments, area chambers of commerce, and others.

A previous segment of the Beartooth Highway was awarded $6 million under TIGER I, and this funding has been put to good use rebuilding a portion of the highway. Additional funds will continue that effort to improve this highway, renowned for the natural beauty and recreational opportunities to which it provides access.

In addition to improving safety, one of the principal goals of this reconstruction effort is bringing the remaining portions of this highway into a state of good repair so that the roadway and its scenic vistas can be enjoyed by motorists for years to come, without the need for ongoing maintenance to address crumbling pavement and other issues. As the northeast gateway to Yellowstone National Park, the Beartooth Highway is vital to the area's tourism economy as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this worthwhile project application. With TIGER IV funding, the project partners are eager to continue work on this roadway, which has often been proclaimed as the most beautiful highway in America.

If you have any questions regarding this application or the Beartooth Reconstruction Project, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

John F. Cox,
Director

MDT

Montana Department of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Timothy W. Reardon, Director
Brian Schweitzer, Governor

March 14, 2012

U.S. Department of Transportation
TIGER Discretionary Grant Manager
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: FY 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant Application –Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project

Please consider the Montana Department of Transportation's support for the Wyoming Department of Transportation's request for 2012 TIGER grant funds to complete the remaining 4.7 mile segment of the Beartooth Highway.

This project will complete the reconstruction of the Beartooth Highway to current design and safety standards, completing a transportation link that is vital for the economic viability of nearby communities in Montana, Wyoming, and those living throughout the greater Yellowstone region.

The TIGER grant program is an excellent opportunity to complete an otherwise unfunded project with a history of broad support and partnering that will have long term benefits to the economy, environment, and safety of the traveling public.

Thank you for your consideration of funding this regionally important project with TIGER discretionary funds.

Sincerely,

Tim Reardon
Director

Director's Office
Phone: (406) 444-6201
Fax: (406) 444-7643

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Web Page: www.mdt.mt.gov
Road Report: (800) 226-7623 or 511
TTY: (800) 335-7592

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park
Wyoming 82190

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D30(YELL)

OCT 2011

Mr. John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340

Dear Mr. Cox:

Please include this letter of support from Yellowstone National Park with the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER III) Grant application for the Beartooth National Scenic Byway reconstruction. The National Park Service (NPS) has had maintenance responsibility of the Beartooth Highway since its completion in 1936. This highway passes through the Custer, Shoshone, and Gallatin National Forests on its way to the Northeast Entrance of Yellowstone National Park. The outstanding scenic quality of this unique route has been demonstrated by the Federal Highway Administration's designation of this road as an "All American Scenic Byway."

The NPS has performed road maintenance and snowplowing on this road since the 1930s. In 1996, the Beartooth Highway Steering Committee, comprised of executives from five state and federal agencies and local government representatives, all with an interest in maintaining the route, began to meet with the intention of finding a long-term solution for keeping the Beartooth open and maintained. This innovative partnership has matured over the years, building collaborative partnerships across state and federal jurisdictions to assure long-term access. Bringing this road up to modern highway standards will assist in the endeavor. The Committee's number one goal is to ensure that the condition of the Beartooth Highway is improved and sustained to minimize costly reconstruction to minimize life cycle costs in the long term.

It was this local interest that supported the passage of the Park Approach Act (H.R. 12404) on January 31, 1931. This Act gave the Secretary of Interior authority to designate approach roads to parks. Funds authorized by the Park Approach Act and Forest Highway and Federal Aid programs were used in the construction of different sections of the Highway. This legislation led to a road that enhanced the tourism economy of the greater Yellowstone region. Since 1945, the National Park Service has maintained 43 miles of the Highway with the State of Montana maintaining the Highway from milepost 60.0 to 43. Road maintenance includes road repair work, spring snow plowing and road opening, and plowing needed due to spring, summer and fall snow storms prior to the mid-October road closure date.

This national treasure is essential to the economies of Red Lodge and Cooke City, Montana, Cody, Wyoming, and all the small businesses in between. The economies of Billings and the communities in the greater Yellowstone area are also influenced by this scenic wonder.

Given fiscal realities and the need to support the tourism-oriented economies of this region, the Strategic Goals for the Beartooth Highway are:

- Clear and open the Beartooth to travel by Memorial Day annually
- Manage the Highway so it remains open to travel with a paved surface
- Obtain reliable Federal funding to reconstruct bridges or other projects as identified by MDT, WYDOT and Central Federal Lands

A long-term investment in the Highway would yield benefits in the reduction of environmental impacts to a fragile ecosystem, improved visitor safety, improved level of service, reduced operations and maintenance costs, and would provide immediate employment opportunities in the construction and services sectors.

Additional benefits include supporting tourism goals to "brand" the western outdoor experience with high quality natural beauty, small town charm, and a pleasurable travel experience. These investments in the infrastructure of tourism yield long-term employment opportunities. Please consider this investment into one of America's treasure.

Sincerely,

Steven F. Iobst
Deputy Superintendent

United States Department of Agriculture **Forest Service** **Region One** **Northern Region 200 East Broadway Missoula, MT 59802**

File Code: 7720
Date: March 15, 2012

Tim Reardon
Director
Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Mr. Reardon:

I am sending this letter to voice my support for the state of Wyoming's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery discretionary grant application for the Beartooth Highway. The Northern Region of the U.S. Forest Service has long been a partner in the Beartooth Highway Steering Committee and a supporter of improvements to the highway.

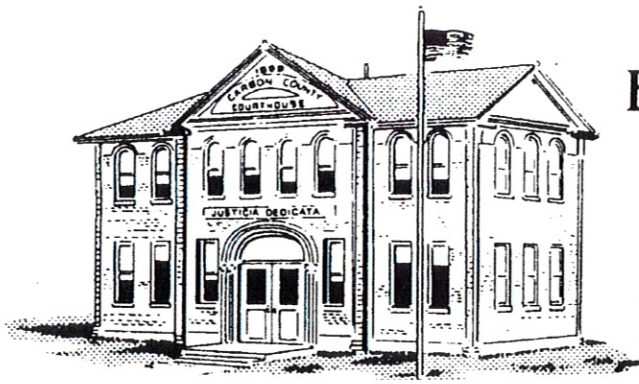
The Beartooth Highway provides an important access for users of the Custer and Gallatin National Forests, and for management of those National Forest system lands. In addition, the Beartooth Highway is important to economies of the rural communities it serves. As a Scenic Byway and an All American Road, it attracts visitors from around the country and internationally also.

It is important to the Forest Service that funds for the remaining projects identified in the "Beartooth Highway Project Funding and Delivery Plan" are secured in order to provide for the safe travel of National Forest visitors and our employees.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jane L. Cottrell (for)
VICTORIA CHRISTIANSEN
Acting Regional Forester

cc: John Cox
Michael Will



BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY OF CARBON • STATE OF MONTANA

Post Office Box 887
Red Lodge, MT 59068

Phone: (406) 446-1595
Fax: (406) 446-2640

October 5, 2011

John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

Tim Reardon, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
P.O. box 201001
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Sirs,

The Board of County Commissioners of Carbon County, Montana write in support of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) III grant funds.

The importance of the Beartooth ALL American Road (BAAR) to the community of Red Lodge and Carbon County cannot be overstated. The BAAR serves as the main economic driver for Red Lodge, Cooke City, and Cody, Wyoming. The BAAR provides access to the Beartooth Wilderness Area, the Custer National Forest and the Shoshone National Forests for recreation and tourism, commerce, and management of these natural resources. The BAAR provided essential access these areas for fighting the devastating fires of 1988 that nearly consumed the community of Cooke City and severely damaged much of the forest.

We greatly appreciate your efforts in applying for the TIGER III grant funds and sincerely hope that you are successful in securing the funds necessary to complete the reconstruction of the Beartooth All American Road. Thank you.

Board of County Commissioners
Carbon County, Montana

Doug Tucker, Chairman

John L Grewell

John E. Prinkki

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Tim A. French, Chairman
Loren Grosskopf, Vice Chairman
Joseph E. Tilden, Commissioner
Dave Burke, Commissioner
Bucky Hall, Commissioner

County of Park

PARK COUNTY, WYOMING
ORGANIZED 1911

ORIGINAL PARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE
CODY, WYOMING
COMPLETED 1912

Commissioners' Office
March 13, 2012

John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

Tim Reardon, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 201001
Helena, Montana 59620

RE: Letter of Support – Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project
[TIGER Discretionary Grant Application]

Dear Sirs:

The Board of County Commissioners of Park County, Wyoming hereby offers our support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant Application for the Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project. The State of Wyoming, State of Montana, numerous federal agencies, as well as local governments have all worked together to ensure long-term access for the public through this beautiful area of Park County, Wyoming and Park County, Montana. We appreciate your work on this grant application and hope the grant funds will be allocated to this project.

Sincerely,
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PARK COUNTY, WYOMING

Tim A. French, Chairman

Loren Grosskopf, Vice Chairman

Joseph E. Tilden, Commissioner

Dave Burke, Commissioner

Bucky Hall, Commissioner

1002 Sheridan Avenue Cody, Wyoming 82414 (307) 527-8510 Fax: 527-8515

PO Box 983 • Red Lodge, MT 59068 • www.beartoothhighway.com
Cooke City, Montana • Red Lodge, Montana • Cody, Wyoming

October 14, 2011

Mr. John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009=3340

Director Cox,

Friends of the Beartooth All-American Road, the 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization charged with implementing the Beartooth Highway Corridor Management Plan, is please to provide this letter of support for the Tiger III Grant Application submitted by the Wyoming Department of Transportation on behalf of the inter-agency partnership group currently supporting the Beartooth Highway.

Since it's construction under the Park Approach Act in1932 - 1936 a large section of the Beartooth Highway has yet to find an oversight agency willing to "adopt" and care for the road as it so well deserves. This "orphaned" road status forced the creation of the Beartooth Highway Steering Committee (BHSC), a group of dedicated, hardworking individuals who represent the Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal Lands, the National Forest Service, the National Park Service, and both the Wyoming and Montana Departments of Transportation. Committed to ensuring the Beartooth Highway has a fighting chance for staying safe for the thousands of drivers who visit it each year, the BHSC has taken on the daunting task of identifying and planning for the construction projects that are needed along the Highway. The most challenging job for the BHSC is finding the funding to make these construction projects happen.

In 2009 TIGER I funding was received for construction on the Beartooth Highway, and the success of the committee in utilizing those funds speaks volumes for their dedication and commitment. Within 59 days the TIGER I grant was executed, the project was awarded and construction activities were underway. Completion of that project is expected by November, 2011. Very rarely are construction projects handled with this sort of efficiency. FBAAR has no doubt that TIGER III funds will

be used in the same efficient and professional manner to complete one, or all four, of the Beartooth Highway shovel-ready construction projects awaiting funding.

The Beartooth Highway's three gateway communities, Cooke City and Red Lodge, Montana and Cody, Wyoming rely on the Beartooth Highway being open, in good repair, and safe for the visitors who come to the area every year to experience traveling the Highway. The TIGER grant program is an amazing funding opportunity for one of America's All-American Road's that, under ordinary circumstances, struggles to hold its own. The entire FBAAR Board of Directors supports this grant application and encourages its approval!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Friends of the Beartooth All-American Road
Board of Directors

Karen Miller, Cody, Wyoming

Corey Thompson, Red Lodge, Montana

Bev Chatelain, Cooke City, Montana

Donna Rowland, Cooke City, Montana

Nellie Israel, Cooke City, Montana

Glory Mahan, Red Lodge, Montana

CITY OF CODY
WYOMING

October 13, 2011

John Cox, Director
WY Dept. of Transportation
5300 Bishop Blvd
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Tim Reardon, Director
MT Dept. of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Director Cox and Director Reardon:

On behalf of the City of Cody, please accept this letter of support for the Wyoming Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) III grant funds. If awarded, the funds will continue the reconstruction of the Beartooth All American Road which would be otherwise an unfunded project since the road is not specifically maintained by any one entity.

The City of Cody is especially supportive of the enhancements made to this road as it is one of the many attractions we have to offer the visitors of our community. Having such a magnificent scenic byway in beautiful northwest Wyoming entices folks to stay longer in our community, occupy our hotels, eat at our restaurants and shop in our stores. This road offers our visitors an opportunity to take a scenic drive, view wildlife, explore the mountains, and perhaps fish, camp and hike while visiting the Cody Country. Cody is a gateway community to Yellowstone National Park, and the Beartooth All American Road serves as a connector to Yellowstone's northeast entrance and the east entrance.

Thank you for your previous support of the Beartooth All American Road. Please give careful consideration for funding the remainder of the project. Your support of this project will continue to enhance the economic vitality of many of the surrounding communities, including Cody.

Sincerely,

Nancy Tia Brown
Mayor

Nancy Tia Brown
MAYOR

Donny Anderson
Charles Cloud
Bryan Edwards
Jerry Fritz
Steve Miller
Stan Wolz
COUNCIL MEMBERS

C. Edward Webster II
MUNICIPAL JUDGE

Jennifer R. Rosencranse
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

1338 Rumsey Avenue
P.O. Box 2200
Cody, Wyoming 82414

(307) 527-7511
FAX (307) 527-6532

RECEIVED OCT 17 2011

Colter Pass, Cooke City, Silver Gate Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 1071, Cooke City, MT 59020
406-838-2495

October 12, 2011

John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Tim Reardon, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

Subject: Letter of Support – Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project
TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Cox and Mr. Readon,

Please include this letter of support from the Colter Pass, Cooke City, and Silver Gate Chamber of Commerce with the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant application for the Beartooth All American Road and Scenic Byway reconstruction. The Cooke City Area chamber has had a vested interest in the Beartooth All American Road for many years working with the Steering Committee forming and working with the partnerships.

This All American Highway is essential to the economies of Colter Pass, Cooke City, Silver Gate and Red Lodge, Montana and Cody, Wyoming and all the many businesses in between and the larger Greater Yellowstone areas. Therefore, it is very important for the road to be maintained and in good repair and safe for generations to come.

This project is very close in vicinity to the Cooke City Area which allows contractors to offer jobs to our local people and in the same provides economic activity directly to our area which then allows a reduction to the operations of the project.

We appreciate the work that has already been done over the years to this road. Please consider this investment to the Beartooth All American Road.

Sincerely,

Donna Rowland

Donna Rowland
Executive Director
Colter Pass, Cooke City, Silver Gate Chamber of Commerce

RED LODGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 13, 2011

John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Tim Reardon, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
P O Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Letter of Support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) III grant by the Beartooth Pass Steering Committee.

The Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center fully supports the application of the TIGER-III grant by the Beartooth Pass Steering Committee for much needed construction project(s) on the Beartooth All-American Road (BAAR).

The Beartooth Pass Steering Committee is a prime example of the success of multiple agencies and organizations working together towards a common goal. The nearby communities and visitors worldwide benefit from the successes of this Steering Committee. The Committee consists of Members from the following: Yellowstone National Park Service, the Federal Highway Administration - Central Federal Lands Division, representatives from the Shoshone, Custer, and Gallatin National Forests, Montana Department of Transportation, and the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

The BAAR has been deemed in prior years as the "orphan road". It is the only road without a single agency responsible for maintenance, construction, and safety. The Steering Committee was formed to fill these voids on this very special road. Highway 212 on Broadway Avenue in Red Lodge, Montana, was named one of the Top 10 Great Streets in 2010 by the American Planning Association and the BAAR was voted #1 as the 2011 best ride in America by the American Motorcyclist Association.

The TIGER-III funding assistance for the Beartooth Pass Steering Committee will result in the ensured continued (long-term) safety of the travelers on the BAAR; will enhance the community economies directly impacted by tourism on the BAAR, including Red Lodge, MT, Cooke City, MT and Cody, Wyoming; will stimulate job creation by allowing the Committee to commit to the 4 shovel ready projects at hand.

Annually, 8,000 guests visit the Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center. The majority of the tourism influx occurs within a 3 month period, June, July and August, when the BAAR is open and accessible. Through research done by the Chamber, the primary purpose for visiting Red Lodge is to "drive the Beartooth Pass" (BAAR). When the BAAR is inaccessible, the economy of Red Lodge is dramatically decreased as we saw in June 2011. The survival of the community is literally due to the position and accessibility of Red Lodge at the beginning of the Beartooth All-American Road. The TIGER-III grant contributes to the survival of the nearby communities and therefore has our support.

Thank you for your consideration of the TIGER-III grant application submitted by the Beartooth Pass Steering Committee.

Respectfully yours,

Patty R. Davis

Patty R. Davis/Executive Director
Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce
(406) 446-1718
redlodgechamber@qwestoffice.net

YELLOWSTONE COUNTRY MONTANA

PO Box 3048 Bozeman, MT 59772 (406) 556-8680, FAX: (406) 556-8688
www.yellowstonecountry.net Email: robin@yellowstonecountry.net

John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Tim Reardon, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
P O Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620

March 12, 2012

Dear Director Cox and Director Reardon:

Please include this letter of support with the TIGER IV grant application for construction project funds for the Beartooth All American Road (BAAR).

Yellowstone Country Montana, Inc. (YCMI) is one of six designated tourism regions in the State of Montana funded by the 4% accommodations tax, also known as the "bed tax". The purpose of Yellowstone Country is to market and develop the region as a preferred vacation destination for leisure visitors and groups, and as such, this organization has a vested interest in all matters relating to the current & future vitality of the Beartooth Highway.

As arguably the most scenic gateway to Yellowstone National Park, the Beartooth All-American Road is an integral attraction to visitors to the area, and to that end, YCMI uses annual marketing funds to promote the highway as a major destination. Additionally, YCMI enters into many strategic marketing partnerships with the gateway communities and other interested stakeholders to help leverage those marketing efforts for a greater outreach to potential new visitors and the scores of visitors who return time and again to take in the majestic views and magnificent beauty of the Beartooth Highway corridor into YNP.

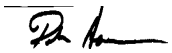
The BAAR is essential to the economic well-being of the gateway communities of Red Lodge, Cooke City, & Silver Gate, MT and Cody, WY, with many main street businesses relying on the patronage of the visitors who traverse the highway to support their livelihoods. It is imperative the Beartooth All -American Road remain in a state of good repair for all users, and

without continued funding to help repair & maintain it, travelers would not be able to call this scenic gem "one of the most beautiful highways in America."

Addressing concerns of usability, public safety, & long-term maintenance of the highway, the Beartooth Highway Steering Committee used a similar collaborative approach when the decision was made to apply for construction project funds in the first round of TIGER grants. In 2011, the Beartooth Highway Steering Committee received $6 million in funds for an extensive construction project on the Beartooth Highway. It's a major success story that in the short timeframe from notification of funding to "boots on the ground," this dedicated group of representatives from federal & state agencies was able to accomplish the goals & objectives outlined in the initial project application.

Yellowstone Country Montana, Inc. and our tourism industry partners, has the utmost confidence in the ability of The Beartooth Highway Steering Committee to move forward with the same, or higher, level of success for additional Beartooth Highway construction projects if TIGER IV funding can be secured through the new grant process.

On behalf of the YCMI Board of Directors, I hope the utmost consideration will be given to continuing TIGER grant funding to help keep the Beartooth Highway the national treasure that it is!
Sincerely,



Robin Hoover,
Executive Director
Yellowstone Country Montana, Inc.

Mr. John Cox, Director
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wy 82009-3340

Mr. Jim Lynch, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
P.O. 201001
Helena, Montana 59620-1001

Dear Sirs:

The Cody Country Snowmobile Association, its members, and board of directors would like to express our support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (Tiger) Discretionary Grant Application for the Beartooth Highway Reconstruction Project. The Beartooth Highway is truly an "All American Road" and should be seen by all. This Tiger Grant would help complete the next phase on this truly wonderful road and secure safety on this American by Way for all.

We all thank you for your hard work on this grant and hope you will see the need for this very important project for Wyoming and Montana.

Thank you,

Bert Miller
Cody Country Snowmobile Association Director

City of Red Lodge
P.O. Box 9
Red Lodge, Montana 59068
(406) 446-1606

March 13, 2012

Michael Will
Project Manager
Federal Highway Administration-Central Federal Lands
12300 W. Dakota Avenue Suite 380
Lakewood, CO 80228

Re: Letter of Support TIGER IV Grant Application, Wyoming Department of Transportation Beartooth Highway Project.

Dear Mr. Will:

The City of Red Lodge, Montana is pleased to support the Wyoming Department of Transportation request for funding via the TIGER IV grant program. As we understand this request, the funds will be used to reconstruct the last remaining section of the Beartooth Highway.

With the complete reconstruction of the Highway the entire road will be brought to current design and safety standards. It will also insure the long-term viability of a vital transportation route that is key to our economic stability.

The TIGER discretionary grant program is an excellent opportunity to complete an otherwise unfunded project that has a broad base of support and partnering among countless jurisdictions.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of funding this worthwhile regional project.

Sincerely,

Brian C. Roat
Mayor

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Montana Relay Service-TTY-TDD/ (866) 253-4090 (Voice)

RED LODGE MERCHANTS' AND LODGING ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 2037
RED LODGE, MONTANA 59068

OCTOBER 17, 2011

J. Michael Will, P.E.
Project Manager, Federal Highway Administration
Central Federal Lands Highway Division
12300 W. Dakota Avenue, Suite 380
Lakewood, Colorado, 80228

Dear Sir:

At the October 17, 2011 meeting of the Red Lodge Merchants and Lodging Association the membership voted unanimously to support Wyoming's application for a Tiger 3 Grant to provide funding for projects on the Beartooth All American Road.
As a gateway community we understand full well the importance of properly maintained roads throughout the Yellowstone Park region. This has a direct affect on the area's economic health in both Wyoming and Montana.
Member Tim Buckstead, owner of Bone Daddy's Harley Motorcycle Shop in Red Lodge, is especially appreciative of Wyoming's efforts since the American Motorcycle Association named the Beartooth Highway the top ride in the USA.
Red Lodge and Cooke City, Montana join Cody, Wyoming in asking for this grant to be secured.

Sincerely,

Angela Beaumont, General Manager
Pollard Hotel
President of the Merchants and Lodging Association