



JOHN H. LYNCH
Governor

State of New Hampshire

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

107 North Main Street, State House - Rm 208
Concord, New Hampshire 03301
Telephone (603) 271-2121
www.nh.gov/governor
governorlynch@nh.gov

October 27, 2011

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

RE: TIGER III Application for the Hooksett I-93 Open Road Tolling Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write to express my support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economy Recovery (TIGER) III grant application submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for the Hooksett I-93 Open Road Tolling Project.

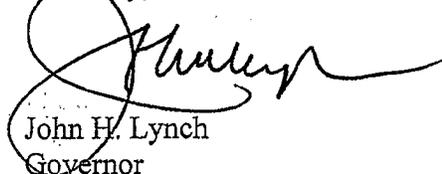
This project will convert the Hooksett Toll Plaza on the F.E. Everett Turnpike/Interstate 93 from a conventional cash and EZ-Pass facility to an open-road tolling facility. The project also includes the rehabilitation of three bridges and will increase capacity near the toll plaza.

The toll plaza is currently a bottleneck that can lead to congestion during peak hours. This corridor is a critical piece of New Hampshire's transportation infrastructure, which serves multiple users including commuters, tourists and freight traffic. This project will improve travel times for all users and the congestion relief measures will have a positive impact on the environment by reducing vehicle emissions in the area. The separation of high-speed traffic from vehicles slowing for cash transactions will also improve safety conditions at the toll plaza for both drivers and tollbooth employees.

NHDOT has already demonstrated its ability to construct and implement this toll collection method. NHDOT constructed an open road tolling facility in the southeast portion of the state on Interstate 95 in the Town of Hampton, which reduced congestion and vehicle emissions, improved travel times, and improved public safety. The state has received overwhelmingly positive feedback about this facility and how it has improved the experience of the traveling public in our state.

These same benefits will be achieved at the Hooksett toll plaza resulting in less congestion, reduced travel times, improved connectivity, and safer conditions. For these reasons, I am pleased to support this application, and I respectfully request your support.

Sincerely,



John H. Lynch
Governor

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

October 27, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood
United States Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER III Grant Application
I-93 Open Road Tolling
NH Department of Transportation

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We writing in strong support of the TIGER III competitive grant application submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NH DOT) for \$10 million to be used for Open Road Tolling on I-93 in Hooksett, New Hampshire.

I-93 is the major route for travel in New Hampshire and connects the state's population, government and business centers in Manchester and Concord to each other and the greater Boston metropolitan region. At present, the Hooksett facility is a traditional Cash and EZ-Pass collection facility. Moving the Hooksett facility to an Open Road Tolling (ORT) system will help curb harmful emissions and reduce congestion along the state's major traffic corridor, improving the quality of life for thousands of New Hampshire residents who commute along this vital artery every day. The successful implementation of ORT at the Hampton Plaza along I-95, which now accommodates over 60 percent more vehicles per hour than a standard EZ-Pass system, demonstrates the significant reduction in congestion that can be achieved by implementing this technology in New Hampshire.

In addition, NH DOT is confident that the success of the Hampton project can be replicated in Hooksett and has committed \$16.5 million — over 60 percent of the total project cost — in non-federal turnpike funds to this project. The Department's recent experience with a similar project highlights its readiness to begin construction in Hooksett and the cost share pledge represents a strong value for the federal government.

As the elected representatives for the people of New Hampshire, we support this project and strongly urge you to consider this competitive grant application.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Kelly Ayotte
United States Senator

Charles F. Bass

Charles Bass
United States Representative

Frank C. Guinta

Frank Guinta
United States Representative



The Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire
State House, 107 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

Raymond J. Wieczorek
Councilor, District Four

October 26, 2011

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

RE: TIGER III Application for the Hooksett I-93 Open Road Tolling Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write in support of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT)'s TIGER III application for the Hooksett I-93 Open Road Tolling Project.

This project will convert the Hooksett Toll Plaza on F.E. Everett Turnpike/Interstate 93 from a conventional cash and EZ-Pass facility to an open-road tolling facility. The project also includes the rehabilitation of three bridges and will increase capacity near the toll plaza. The toll plaza is currently a congestion bottleneck during peak hours.

This corridor serves multiple sections of the traveling public impacting commuters, jobs, the tourism industry, as well as freight traffic. Completion of this project will improve travel times for all users and the reduced congestion will have a positive impact on the environment by reducing vehicle emissions, especially from idling vehicles. Finally, safety conditions at the toll plaza will improve for drivers, passengers and tollbooth employees.

NHDOT has already demonstrated their ability to construct and implement this toll collection method. NHDOT constructed an open road tolling facility in the southeast portion of the state, which has resulted in a reduction in congestion, improved travel times, provided safer conditions, and reduced vehicle emissions. This is the only facility of its type in northern New England. It has also resulted in a more efficient use of NHDOT employees by reducing the need for toll collectors at the plaza.

These same benefits will be achieved at the Hooksett toll plaza resulting in less congestion, reduced travel times, improved connectivity, safer conditions, and a more efficient use of public employees. For these reasons, I respectfully request your support for this application.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Wieczorek
Executive Councilor



The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

107 North Main Street, Concord, N.H. 03301-4951

October 25, 2011

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

RE: TIGER III Application for the Hooksett I-93 Open Road Tolling Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to you in support of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation's (NHDOT) TIGER III Grant application for the Hooksett I-93 Open Road Tolling Project.

This project will convert the Hooksett Toll Plaza on F.E. Everett Turnpike/Interstate 93 from a conventional cash and EZ-Pass facility to an open-road tolling facility. The project also includes the rehabilitation of three bridges and will increase capacity near the toll plaza.

The toll plaza is currently a bottleneck resulting in congestion during peak hours. This corridor serves multiple sections of the traveling public impacting commuters, jobs, the tourism industry and freight traffic. The project will improve travel times for all users, and the congestion relief measures will have a positive impact on the environment by reducing vehicle emissions in the area. Finally, safety conditions at the toll plaza will improve for both drivers and tollbooth employees.

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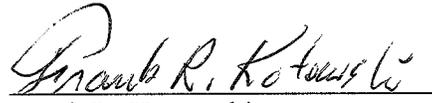
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Sincerely,


Jim Rausch
Senate Transportation Committee
Chairman


David Boutin
Senate Transportation Committee
Vice Chairman


David W. Hess
State Representative, Hooksett


Frank R. Kotowski
State Representative, Hooksett


Molly Sanborn
State Representative, Hooksett


Todd P. Smith
State Representative, Hooksett

dm



SNHPC

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102-3546, Telephone (603) 669-4664 Fax (603) 669-4350

www.snhpc.org

October 24, 2011

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

RECEIVED
COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

OCT 25 2011

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

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These same benefits will be achieved at the Hooksett toll plaza. For these reasons, I respectfully request your support for this application.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,
SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE
PLANNING COMMISSION

David J. Preece, AICP
Executive Director/CEO



Town of Hooksett

TOWN COUNCIL
William N. Sirak
Town Council Chair

October 26, 2011

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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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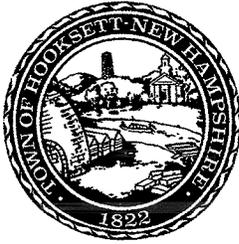
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Sincerely,

William N. Sirak
Town Council Chair



Town of Hooksett

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Dean E. Shankle, Jr., PH.D.

Town Administrator

October 26, 2011

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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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Sincerely,

Dean E. Shankle, Jr., Ph.D.

Town Administrator



54 Hanover Street
Manchester, NH 03101

Phone: 603.666.6600
Fax: 603.626.0910

www.manchester-chamber.org

October 25, 2011

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood
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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D. C. 20590

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Sincerely,


Robin A. Cornstock
President & CEO