

**Letters of Support**  
**Lebanon, NH – Hartford, VT TIGER VIII Grant Application**

State of NH Governor Margaret Wood Hassan

State of Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin

US Senator, State of NH, Senator Jeanne Shaheen

US Senator, State of NH, Senator Kelly A. Ayotte

US Congress State of NH, Congresswoman Ann McLane Kuster

US Delegation State of Vermont, Senator Patrick Leahy,

Senator Bernard Sanders, Congressman Peter Welch

State of NH Executive Councilor Joseph D. Kenney

State of NH Senator David Pierce

City of Lebanon, NH, City Manager Paula Mayville

Town of Hartford, Vermont, Selectboard Chair, Richard G. Grassi

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, Director Nate Miller

Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission, Director Peter G. Gregory



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MARGARET WOOD HASSAN  
Governor

April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I strongly support the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant proposal in the amount of \$12 million submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) in conjunction with Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) for the "*I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project*". This project addresses the needs of a critical interstate bridge that carries Interstate 89 northbound and southbound over the Connecticut River and connects the communities of Hartford, Vermont, and Lebanon, New Hampshire.

Built in 1966, this bridge is in poor condition. Due to its age and harsh northern climate, the deterioration has progressed to the extent where it is now considered structurally deficient. This project will address the bridge's structural deficiency and improve reliability on this critical segment of the overall transportation network in the region.

This bridge is a critical facility for the movement of people and goods locally, regionally and internationally. It is the major Boston-to-Montreal international trade route corridor, providing a junction to Interstate-91 and Interstate-93, which connects New England with Canadian trade markets. It also serves as a connector to New England's major seaports and intermodal facilities. Without the bridge, freight traffic would need to detour 50 or more miles and rely on secondary highways. The bridge serves the Lebanon micropolitan statistical area, one of the nation's largest such area with a population of 218,466 in New Hampshire and Vermont. In addition to commuter traffic and freight, local transit and intercity buses rely on this corridor.

This bridge is also critically important to the connectivity, economy, and quality of life for both New Hampshire and Vermont, supporting economic development and job creation. Businesses in the area utilize this bridge daily to facilitate delivery of goods and services throughout the region, and it serves as a link to the downtown areas of Lebanon, New Hampshire, and White River Junction, Vermont, for our retail, tourism and service industries. This project will address regional transportation needs and ensure the continued economic vitality of these two communities and the region.

The project is consistent with state of good repair plans for both NHDOT and VTrans, and appears in New Hampshire's approved Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan and Vermont's State Transportation Improvement Program.

The "*I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project*" is critical to a strong, modern transportation infrastructure in the region that is essential to the success of our people and businesses, and it represents a significant regional investment that would maintain and enhance the quality of life for residents and promote local and regional economic development. I am pleased to offer my support for this application and hope you will look upon it favorably.

With every good wish,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maggie H" followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Margaret Wood Hassan  
Governor

CC: Commissioner Victoria Sheehan, NHDOT  
Secretary Chris Cole, VTrans

PETER SHUMLIN  
Governor



State of Vermont  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 29, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C 20590

Subject: I-89 Lebanon, NH – Hartford, VT Bridge Rehabilitation TIGER VIII Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to inform you of my support for the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Rehabilitation Project that is competing for Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER VIII) Discretionary Grant funding.

Over the years, Vermont's harsh northern climate has taken its toll on our transportation infrastructure, and the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford bridge is a good example of how winter conditions accelerate infrastructure deterioration. The bridge was originally constructed in 1966 and has gradually deteriorated to the point of structural deficiency.

The bridge is a critical facility for the movement of people and goods locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. It serves the Lebanon micropolitan statistical area, the nation's largest such area with a population of 218,466 in both Vermont and New Hampshire. Businesses in the area use the bridge daily to facilitate the delivery of goods and services, and it serves as a link to the downtown areas of Lebanon, NH and White River Junction, VT for retail, tourism, and service industries.

The bridge is a critical facility along the I-89 Boston-to-Montreal international trade route, and serves as a junction to I-91 and I-93, the other major New England-Canada trade routes. Intercity bus companies and Amtrak depend on the bridge to reach their stations in White River Junction.

I believe this Project would be an ideal candidate for TIGER VIII funding. The Project is a major priority for both Vermont and New Hampshire, and represents a cooperative partnership by both states to focus on rehabilitating a bridge whose significance reaches far beyond New England.

Thank you for your full consideration of the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Rehabilitation Project. I hope you share my enthusiasm for this application. I would be happy to discuss its merits with you.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Peter Shumlin, written over a white background.

Peter Shumlin  
Governor

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 10, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write in support of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation's (NH DOT) application, in conjunction with the state of Vermont, for \$12,000,000 in funding (Reference Number 12154106) from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. The states of New Hampshire and Vermont would use these funds to replace, widen and improve portions of Interstate 89 (I-89).

I-89 is a vital highway in New Hampshire, connecting the western part of the state to Vermont and into Canada. Both the Northbound and Southbound bridges crossing the Connecticut River between New Hampshire in Vermont have been on the state's Red List for several years. The continual deterioration of this important roadway poses a significant threat to the functionality of the Interstate and the safety of those driving across it.

With funding from the TIGER grant program, the New Hampshire and Vermont Departments of Transportation will move forward with superstructure replacement and widening of I-89's Northbound and Southbound bridges. They will also make critical roadway improvements in both states that will enhance safety for merging traffic between the Interstate 91 and Exit 20 interchanges.

I support the NH DOT's application for funding through the TIGER grant program and request your consideration of their proposal. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Emily Cashman in my office at 603-647-7500.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senate

KELLY A. AYOTTE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMERCE

HOMELAND SECURITY &  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

BUDGET  
SMALL BUSINESS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3324

144 RUSSELL BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

1200 ELM STREET, SUITE 2  
MANCHESTER, NH 03101

144 MAIN STREET  
NASHUA, NH 03060

14 MANCHESTER SQUARE, SUITE 140  
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801

19 PLEASANT STREET, SUITE 13B  
BERLIN, NH 03570

April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write to express my support for the Transportation Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant proposal in the amount of \$12 million submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in conjunction with Vermont Agency of Transportation for the "I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project".

Built in 1966, this bridge is in poor condition due to age and deterioration, and is currently considered as structurally deficient. The project seeks to address the bridge's structural deficiency and improve reliability on a critical segment of the region's transportation network to ensure the movement of goods and people to the New England and Canadian trade markets.

I urge your full and due consideration of the competitive grant application submitted by both the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and Vermont Agency of Transportation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kelly A. Ayotte  
United States Senator

KAA/jd

ANN McLANE KUSTER  
SECOND DISTRICT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

[www.kuster.house.gov](http://www.kuster.house.gov)

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
137 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2902  
P: (202) 225-5206

CONCORD OFFICE:  
18 NORTH MAIN STREET, 4TH FLOOR  
CONCORD, NH 03301  
P: (603) 226-1002

NASHUA OFFICE:  
70 EAST PEARL STREET  
NASHUA, NH 03061  
P: (603) 595-2006

NORTH COUNTRY OFFICE:  
33 MAIN STREET, SUITE 202  
LITTLETON, NH 03561  
P: (603) 444-7700

April 26, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write in support of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) in their application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant for the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project. This grant would fund the much-needed repairs of an invaluable bridge connecting New Hampshire and Vermont. The project is consistent with the state of good repair plans for both the NHDOT and VTrans, and appears in New Hampshire's approved Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan and Vermont's State Transportation Improvement Program.

Built in 1966, the Lebanon-Hartford Bridge has deteriorated over the decades and is now in poor condition. Due to its age and the harsh northern climate, the deterioration has progressed to the extent where it is now considered structurally deficient. This TIGER funding will address the bridge's structural deficiency and improve reliability on this critical segment of the overall transportation network, which impacts residents, commuters and businesses in both New Hampshire and Vermont.

One of my top priorities in Congress has been to make sure that the necessary resources are available to update our failing infrastructure. An up-to-date transportation network is a crucial component of economic development and quality of life, thus making this a significant investment for the region. Businesses throughout the area utilize this bridge daily to facilitate delivery of goods and services throughout the region. It also serves as an important link between the downtown areas of Lebanon, New Hampshire and White River Junction, Vermont for retail, tourism, and service industries. It is critical that we update our infrastructure, and I am pleased to offer my support for this application.

If I can do anything more to help with the application process, please do not hesitate to contact Jake Berry in my office at (603) 226-1002. Please keep my staff updated as you proceed with this process.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

CC: Commissioner Victoria Sheehan, NHDOT; Secretary Chris Cole, VTrans

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1400 Independence Avenue, Southwest  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Foxx,

We write to you today to express our strong support for the Vermont Agency of Transportation's *I-89 Lebanon, New Hampshire-Hartford, Vermont Bridge Reconstruction* application for the Fiscal Year 2016 TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We are pleased to bring this proposal to your attention.

This project addresses one of the highest regional transportation and economic needs of the Upper Connecticut River Valley region that straddles Vermont and New Hampshire. Built in 1966, the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge has weathered 50 years of harsh northern climate and has deteriorated to the point of being structurally deficient. Vermont and New Hampshire have prioritized the reconstruction of this bridge to preserve the movement of interstate commuters and freight.

The I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge connects New England with Canadian trade markets, links New England's major seaports and intermodal facilities, and serves the primary international trade route between Boston and Montreal. The Lebanon metropolitan area depends on this bridge to facilitate commuter and freight traffic; local transit and intercity buses; and the White River Junction Railroad terminal. Without this bridge, freight traffic would be forced to rely on secondary highways that detour 50 or more miles off-route. The importance of this bridge on the region's connectivity, economic prosperity, and quality of life for both Vermont and New Hampshire residents cannot be overstated.

With support from the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Vermont Agency of Transportation will use the requested \$12,000,000 to replace steel girders, fix web perforations and superstructure load-induced fatigue-prone details, and restore several superstructure load violations to current AASHTO steel detailing requirements. As a cooperative partnership between Vermont and New Hampshire, this project will rehabilitate the structure and improve its reliability.

We believe the Vermont Agency of Transportation is very well suited for this grant, with a proven track record of successfully implementing TIGER Discretionary funds. We appreciate you giving the application the serious consideration it deserves. If we can provide further evidence of our support for this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

  
PATRICK LEAHY  
United States Senator

  
BERNARD SANDERS  
United States Senator

  
PETER WELCH  
United States Congressman

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Executive Council

JOSEPH D. KENNEY  
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR  
DISTRICT ONE



STATE HOUSE ROOM 207  
107 NORTH MAIN STREET  
CONCORD, NH 03301  
(603) 271-3632

April 15, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I strongly support the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant proposal in the amount of \$12 million submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in conjunction with Vermont Agency of Transportation for the "*I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project*". This project addresses the needs of this critical Interstate Bridge which carries Interstate 89 NB and SB over the Connecticut River and connects the communities of Hartford, Vermont and Lebanon, New Hampshire.

Built in 1966, this bridge is in poor condition. Due to its age and harsh northern climate, the deterioration has progressed to the extent where it is now considered structurally deficient. This project will address the bridge's structural deficiency and improve reliability on this critical segment of the overall transportation network in the region.

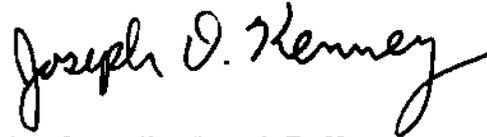
This bridge is a critical facility for the movement of people and goods locally, regionally and internationally. It is the major Boston to Montreal international trade route corridor, providing a junction to Interstate-91 and Interstate-93, which connects New England with Canadian trade markets. It also serves as a major connector to New England's major seaports and intermodal facilities. Without the bridge, freight traffic would need to detour 50 or more miles and rely on secondary highways. The bridge serves the Lebanon micropolitan statistical area, the nation's largest such area with a population of 218,466 in NH and Vermont. In addition to commuter traffic and freight, local transit and intercity buses rely on this corridor.

This bridge is also critically important to the connectivity, economy, and quality of life for both New Hampshire and Vermont, which support economic development. Businesses in the area utilize this bridge daily to facilitate delivery of goods and services throughout the region. It serves as a link to the downtown areas of Lebanon, New Hampshire and White River Junction, Vermont for retail, tourism, and service industries. This project will address regional transportation needs, and ensure the continued economic vitality of these two communities and the region.

The project is consistent with state of good repair plans for both NHDOT and VTrans, and appears in New Hampshire's approved Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan and Vermont's State Transportation Improvement Program.

This is a significant investment for the region that would maintain and enhance the quality of life of the area residents and promote economic development. I am pleased to offer my support for this application and hope you will look upon it favorably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph D. Kenney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "J" and "K".

Executive Councilor Joseph D. Kenney  
District 1, State of New Hampshire

CC: Commissioner Victoria Sheehan, NHDOT  
VT Secretary of Transportation, Chris Cole, VTrans



# The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

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

**David Pierce**  
District 5

Legislative Office Building, Room 5  
(603) 271-3067

April 20, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write to express my strong support for the \$12M Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant proposal submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and the Vermont Agency of Transportation for the "*I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project*". This project addresses the needs of this critical interstate bridge, which carries traffic on Interstate 89 NB and SB over the Connecticut River and connects the communities of Hartford, Vermont and Lebanon, New Hampshire.

Built in 1966, this bridge is in poor condition. Due to its age and the effects of a harsh northern climate, the deterioration has progressed to the extent where it is now considered structurally deficient. This renovation project will address the bridge's structural deficiency and improve reliability on this critical segment of the overall transportation network in the region.

This bridge is a critical facility for the movement of people and goods locally, regionally and internationally. It is the major Boston to Montreal international trade route corridor, providing a junction of Interstate 91 and Interstate 89, which connects New England with Canadian trade markets. It also serves as a major connector to New England's major seaports and intermodal facilities. Without the bridge, freight traffic would need to detour 50 or more miles and rely on secondary highways. The bridge serves the Lebanon micropolitan statistical area, the nation's largest such area with a population of 218,466 in New Hampshire and Vermont. In addition to commuter traffic and freight, local transit and intercity buses rely on this corridor.

This bridge is also critically important to the connectivity, economy, and quality of life for both New Hampshire and Vermont, which in turn support economic development. Businesses in the area utilize this bridge daily to facilitate delivery of goods and services throughout the region. It serves as a link to the downtown areas of Lebanon, New Hampshire and White River Junction, Vermont for retail, tourism, and service industries. This project will address regional



# The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

2

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

transportation needs, and ensure the continued economic vitality of these two communities and the region.

The project is consistent with state of good repair plans for both NHDOT and VTrans, and appears in New Hampshire's approved Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan and Vermont's State Transportation Improvement Program.

This is a significant investment for the region that would maintain and enhance the quality of life of the area residents and promote economic development. I am pleased to offer my support for this application and hope you will look upon it favorably.

Sincerely,

*Sen. David Pierce*

Senator David Pierce  
District 5 Senator, State of New Hampshire

CC: Commissioner Victoria Sheehan, NHDOT  
Secretary Chris Cole, VTrans

# City of Lebanon



51 North Park Street  
Lebanon, New Hampshire 03766

April 18, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the City of Lebanon, NH, I am writing to express our strong support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant proposal in the amount of \$12 million submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in conjunction with Vermont Agency of Transportation for the "*I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project*".

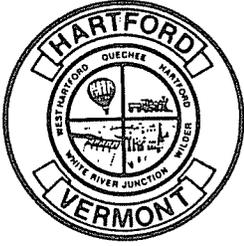
This project addresses the needs of a critical Interstate Bridge, which is responsible for carrying Interstate 89 over the Connecticut River and connecting our New Hampshire community with that of Hartford, Vermont. Our two communities are the center of the area that comprises the "Lebanon Micropolitan Statistical Area" (the nation's largest such area with a population of 218,466 in NH and Vermont). For more information on the micropolitan statistical area, I invite you to visit our website: <http://lebcity.net/Planning/Documents/studies/MicropolisStudy.pdf>

Beyond being a major connection between our communities, this bridge is a critical facility for the movement of people, goods, and services - locally, regionally and internationally. It is the major trade route between Boston and Montreal, and provides travelers with direct access to Northern New England, the Greater Eastern Seaboard, and of course, Canada. Without this bridge, freight traffic would need to detour 50 or more miles and would rely heavily on secondary highways. Without this bridge, the economy of our region (and well beyond) would suffer greatly as our trade, tourism, retail, manufacturing, and service industries are all dependent on this structure to facilitate the transportation requirements of their respective businesses.

We strongly urge your support of this project as it is a significant investment for the region that will continue to promote economic vitality while maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for our region's residents. On behalf of all here in the City of Lebanon, I am pleased to offer our support for this application and hope you will look upon it favorably.

Sincerely,

Paula Maville  
Acting City Manager



# TOWN OF HARTFORD

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

171 Bridge Street

White River Junction, Vermont 05001

Telephone: 802/295-9353 • Fax: 802/295-6382

website: [www.hartford-vt.org](http://www.hartford-vt.org)



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March 28, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary

The Town of Hartford is in support of the joint TIGER 8 grant application with Vermont and New Hampshire to rehabilitate the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge.

This bridge is a significantly important connector for the movement of people and goods locally and regionally between Hartford and Lebanon in addition to being critically important to the connectivity, economy, and quality of life for both New Hampshire and Vermont, which support economic development. Businesses in the area utilize this bridge daily to facilitate delivery of goods and services throughout the region. It serves as a link to the downtown areas of Lebanon NH and White River Junction VT for retail, tourism, and service industries. This project will address regional transportation needs, and ensure the continued economic vitality of these two communities and the region.

In addition to commuter traffic and freight, local transit and intercity buses rely on this corridor, as well the Railroad terminal in White River Junction for both passenger rail and freight – making it a truly intermodal and multimodal corridor in this New England region.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Hartford Selectboard Chair



Upper Valley Lake Sunapee  
Regional Planning Commission

April 18, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in strong support of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) Discretionary Grant proposal in the amount of \$12 million submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in conjunction with Vermont Agency of Transportation for the "*I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project*".

This bridge is fundamental the movement of people and goods not only between Vermont and New Hampshire, but between Northern New England, the Greater Eastern Seaboard, and Canada. More people drive over this bridge each day than any other transportation infrastructure anywhere in our 27-town region.

However, this 50-year old infrastructure has significant structural deficiencies. These deficiencies include the deck on the bridge carrying northbound traffic and the superstructure on the bridge carrying southbound traffic. Our region's highest priority is ensuring that interstate highway infrastructure is maintained in a state of good repair. Because of these structural deficiencies, the *I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge Project* has been our region's top transportation project priority for the past five years.

While the bridge is strategically important for the flow of goods and people both nationally and internationally, it also provides crucial local connections. The Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region of New Hampshire has deep social and economic ties to the Two Rivers Ottauquechee Region of Vermont. This bridge serves as a vital link to the downtown areas of Lebanon, New Hampshire and White River Junction, Vermont for retail, tourism, and service industries.

This is a significant investment that would maintain and enhance the quality of life for our region's residents and promote economic development. I am pleased to offer my strongest support for this application and hope you will look upon it favorably.

Sincerely,

Nathan Miller, AICP  
Executive Director

March 28, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary,

This letter is in support of the joint TIGER 8 grant application with Vermont and New Hampshire to rehabilitate the I-89 Lebanon-Hartford Bridge for the following reasons:

We understand that the bridge dates back 1966 and is in poor condition. As a consequence of its age and harsh northern climate, the deterioration has progressed to the extent that it is now considered structurally deficient. This project will rehabilitate the structure and improve its reliability.

The project is a major priority for both NH and VT, and represents a cooperative partnership the two states. \$12 million in TIGER funds is being requested.

The bridge is a critical facility for the movement of people and goods locally, regionally and internationally. It is the major Boston to Montreal international trade route corridor, and serves as a connection between I-91 and I-93, which connects New England with Canadian trade markets. It is also a major connector to New England's major seaports and intermodal facilities. Without the bridge, freight traffic would need to detour 50 or more miles and rely on secondary highways.

The bridge serves the Lebanon micropolitan statistical area, the nation's largest such area with a population of 218,466 in NH and VT. This bridge is critically important to the connectivity, economy, and quality of life for both NH and VT, which support economic development. Businesses in the area utilize this bridge daily to facilitate delivery of goods and services throughout the region. It serves as a link to the downtown areas of Lebanon NH and White River Junction VT for retail, tourism, and service industries. This project will address regional transportation needs, and ensure the continued economic vitality of these two communities and the region.

Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,



Peter G. Gregory, AICP  
Executive Director

128 King Farm Rd.  
Woodstock, VT 05091  
**802-457-3188**  
[trorc.org](http://trorc.org)

William B. Emmons, III, Chair  
Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director