

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 24, 2014

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

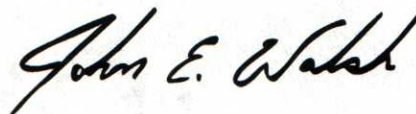
I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Gallatin County, the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, and their partners as they apply for a TIGER VI planning grant.

Big Sky, Montana is an unincorporated town in southwest Montana that boasts a world class ski area. Like many destination resort towns, Big Sky has a highly variable population and high housing costs. These factors present challenges with regard to workforce housing and transportation between affordable housing and jobs. Currently, nearly seventy percent of Big Sky's workers commute approximately fifty miles from Bozeman, Montana placing a significant strain on the area's transportation system.

If funded, the Big Sky community will be able to create a community development plan to address these issues. Their proposal includes a transportation development plan so that residents, visitors, and commuters can easily and safely move about the entire area. They also plan to expand the local trail system mitigating safety concerns for pedestrians and bicyclists. Finally, Big Sky will provide access to land for affordable workforce housing by developing plans for a road and gateway bridge. This community development plan is an important step toward ensuring that as the area grows they are able to maintain a safe, efficient, and smart transportation system.

Again, this project carries my support and I hope their application is reviewed favorably. Please feel free to contact my office if I can provide further information. I would also greatly appreciate if you kept me informed of this request.

Sincerely,



JW/jj