

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2600

April 24, 2014

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

I write to express support for the "Big Sky Better Together Community Development Plan." The application represents the culmination of extensive public involvement and coordination among numerous organizations and agencies including Gallatin County, The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, the Big Sky Transportation District, Big Sky Community Corporation and the Big Sky Water and Sewer District.

This TIGER6-FY14 Planning Grant will fund activities associated with master planning of a multimodal transportation program in Big Sky, Montana. The multimodal program addresses connectivity issues, emphasizes pedestrian mobility and safety, provides access to land for affordable workforce housing, and ultimately provides a catalyst for a strong local economy.

Big Sky is an unincorporated community near Yellowstone National Park. The community has long suffered the consequences of not having sufficient plans to accommodate growth. Boom and bust cycles in Big Sky have disproportionately affected middle-class Montanans. This TIGER grant will open more opportunities for affordable housing and ease the impact of those boom and bust cycles. Having a plan that incorporates the designs, permits, environmental clearances and final engineering of necessary projects that continue to linger will allow the community to act quickly when funds are available.

I encourage you to look favorably on this small Montana town as they work to preserve their strong sense of community and plan for the future.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
Member of Congress