



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MG GREGORY J. VADNAIS  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND DIRECTOR

May 31, 2013

Honorable Raymond LaHood, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Crawford County Road Commission's TIGER Grant Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As the Installations Commander for the Michigan National Guard, I strongly support the project to establish a full traffic interchange at North Down River Road, not only for the safety of our Soldiers operating military convoys but also for civilian traffic. A full interchange would greatly improve the mobility of traffic in and around the community of Grayling, the Grayling Army Airfield, and our training areas.

Currently, military convoys and heavy equipment transition back and forth between our main post and our training areas east of town utilizing portions of the I-75 Business Loop through the city of Grayling. This adds to the congestion of current traffic volume, especially during our primary training periods, which coincide with the peak summer tourism season.

Recent modifications to the business loop in Grayling have compounded matters by reducing traffic lanes from four to three. From a safety standpoint, this current situation is cause for great concern with large heavy equipment haulers maneuvering through routes supporting Grayling city traffic. The full interchange proposal would allow military traffic to conveniently bypass Grayling completely and support future initiatives for Michigan Army National Guard.

Based on the shared positive impact of this project, I fully support any efforts to achieve this. Please contact me with any questions you may have at (517) 481-8082.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Stone  
Assistant Adjutant General for Installations  
Michigan National Guard