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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

May 14, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write in support of the application submitted by the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority for funding from the TIGER Discretionary Grant Program through the U.S. Department of Transportation. This funding will be used for infrastructure improvements to the Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge.

The Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge serves as vital transportation infrastructure in a rural region of New York State, providing a conduit for the movement of goods and people between the broader Northern New York region and Canada. The bridge handles over 700,000 vehicles annually, and it is estimated that in excess of \$4 billion in goods travels over the bridge each year.

The requested funding would be used to support the preservation of the Bridge's superstructure. The Ogdensburg-Prescott International Bridge is in need of over \$90 million in funding to completely restore the 50-year-old structure. In recent years, the Authority has carried out a number of repairs on the Bridge totaling approximately \$23 million. Deteriorating and leaking concrete, corroding bridge spans and unwrapping cables are in need of immediate restoration. This project will build upon these critical upgrades, further stopping the deterioration of this important structure and helping to provide a much-needed economic boost through both the creation of construction jobs and improvement to infrastructure that is central to a regional economy already suffering one of the highest unemployment rates in the state.

I ask that you please give this application your full consideration. For additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Usyk at (202) 224-4451

Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator