

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

October 13, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has submitted a funding request under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. As a strong advocate for investing in our nation's infrastructure, I ask for full and fair consideration of their application.


This project offers a new arterial for the City of Sioux Falls, South Dakota's largest city. The Veteran's Parkway project will reconstruct an interchange on Interstate-90 at exit 402, rebuild the rural, two-lane highway into a four-lane divided highway with limited access, and provide railroad grade separation for the existing Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Ellis and Eastern rail lines.

While easing congestion on Interstate-229 and a railroad grade separation are important safety factors of the Veteran's Highway project, it is important to note the freight access it will provide for a vital economic hub. The arterial will support current and future industrial use, deliver a reliable and effective transportation route for a growing commercial and retail area of the city, and provide regional connectivity for the area's residents from Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota.

I am pleased the SDDOT and the City of Sioux Falls are dedicated to making this project a reality. I would also like to note that the SDDOT is only responsible for the delivery of this project, as the arterial will belong to the City of Sioux Falls and they will be responsible for its operation and maintenance.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator

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Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
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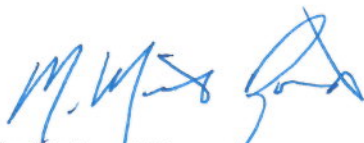
Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing regarding the City of Tea's 271st Street Improvements Project, Phase II. The City's Fiscal Year 2017 TIGER Grant Application will fund the reconstruction of a portion of 271st Street in the City of Tea's projected growth area between Interstate 29 and 469th Avenue from a two lane rural section to a four lane divided urban section. This project is currently in the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). I ask you to give full and fair consideration to this project's application.

This segment of 271st Street is experiencing traffic volumes in excess of 11,000 vehicles per day and functions as an arterial facility carrying a significant amount of commuter traffic. The congestion causes unsafe driving conditions and will likely lead to high accident rates and drivers having to use other local roadways to reach their destination. The arterial expansion project will provide a much needed high-speed, limited access connection in the western and southwestern perimeter of the metropolitan area to improve the regional connections and access to employment and services for people traveling in or around the City of Sioux Falls, City of Tea, Lincoln County and Minnehaha County. Once complete, the improvements to 271st Street would provide significant benefits to the local and regional transportation system.

Thank you for your consideration. I believe this project would improve access to reliable, safe and affordable transportation.

Sincerely,



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator

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October 13, 2017

The Honorable Alan Turley
Deputy Assistant Secretary for China and Mongolia
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Turley,

I write to support the application of Mr. John Garrison, President and CEO of Terex Corporation to be a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce China Trade Mission planned for mid-November 2017. I appreciate the Department of Commerce engaging in this trade mission to advance the Administration's goal of reducing the U.S.-China trade deficit by promoting U.S. exports.

It is my understanding that Terex Corporation meets the criteria of participant consideration including suitability of products to the Chinese market, pending major projects with Chinese entities with a capacity to increase U.S. exports to China and demonstrated export experience to China.

Terex Corporation has been a successful and active member of the South Dakota business community for many years. I believe Mr. Garrison would be an effective representative of both South Dakota and the United States and that his inclusion in this mission could result in positive economic outcomes.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator