



JOSEPH D. MORELLE
Assemblyman 132ND District
Monroe County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN
Committee on Insurance

COMMITTEE
Economic Development, Job Creation,
Commerce & Industry
Higher Education
Rules
Ways & Means

October 25, 2011

Secretary Raymond LaHood
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Rochester Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Rochester's Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project through the 2011 TIGER Discretionary Grants program.

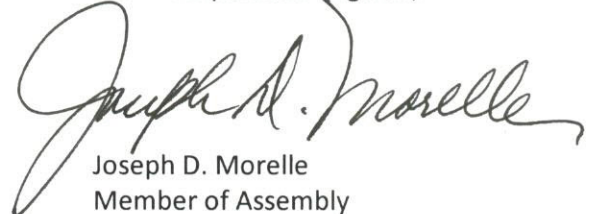
The City of Rochester is successfully revitalizing its downtown through investments in infrastructure, economic development, and housing. A key piece of this downtown revitalization strategy is to reconnect adjacent neighborhoods with the downtown core. No project is more central to this approach than the Inner Loop East Reconstruction project.

The ten to twelve lanes of the Inner Loop and its frontage roads separate the downtown area from thriving neighborhoods like the Neighborhood of the Arts, Upper East End, Park Avenue, and Monroe Village. As such, it is widely seen as a physical and psychological barrier, discouraging walking and biking, and hindering economic development.

With the TIGER Discretionary Grant, the City will remove a deteriorated and underutilized section of the Inner Loop and replace it with a high-quality city street. This project will reconnect neighborhoods, remove two structurally-deficient bridges, and create more than nine acres of land for redevelopment. I believe this proposal meets all of the TIGER Long-Term Outcomes and incorporates multiple innovative features.

Thank you, in advance, for your careful consideration of this important project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warmest personal regards,



Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Assembly

JDM:ram