



Mexico, D.F. February 27, 2012

Mr. William E. Glavin, P.E.
Director
Rail Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11 th Street
Austin, Tx. 78701-2483

Dear Bill:

We fully support the initiative to continue the upgrading of the Texas Pacifico rail line.

We have identified several new customers that require rail services, for that reason the upgrade of the section between Sulphur to Fort Stockton will contribute to the development of the west Texas region.

TXPF is willing to participate cofunding additional investments same as we did in other opportunities participating with 28% of the requirements.

We will continue our support for the rail service working close with Texas DOT.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hilario Gabilondo P.", written over a horizontal line.

Hilario Gabilondo P.
VP CEO & Managing Director

Copy: Gil Wilson -Tx-DOT
F. Diaz - TXP
T. Hammond - TXP



THE CITY OF FORT STOCKTON, TEXAS

MAYOR
WILLIAM C. LANNOM

CITY MANAGER
RAUL B. RODRIGUEZ, P.E.

CITY SECRETARY
DELMA A. GONZALEZ

CITY ATTORNEY
MARTIN O. ADAMS

P. O. BOX 1000
121 W. Second
Fort Stockton, Texas 79735
PH (432) 336-8525
FAX (432) 336-8273

February 16, 2012

Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. DOT

Dear Secretary LaHood,

The City of Fort Stockton and the Fort Stockton Economic Development Corporation support the Texas Department of Transportation TIGER grant application for the rehabilitation of the South Orient from Sulpher Junction to Fort Stockton. Therefore, the Fort Stockton Economic Development Corporation agrees to provide \$200,000 in local funding toward the project.

Best Regards,

Raul Rodriguez, Fort Stockton City Manager

Doug May, FSEDC Executive Director



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4311

February 16, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write to express my support for the Texas Department of Transportation's TIGER IV (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program application for the South Orient Railroad. This project is vital to increasing the capacity of our railroad and supporting our economy.

The railroad is being utilized by many industries, including the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are an asset to persevering and utilizing our natural resources. These important lines need bridge maintenance, crossing rehabilitation, and rail replacement to increase the speed of the tracks train which average only 10-25 miles per hour currently. With the connections to the West and East, this project has the potential to impact all of Texas and into the rest of the States.

I respectfully submit my support to the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the TIGER IV Discretionary Grants Program for the South Orient Railroad project. This project will provide a tremendous boost to both our transportation system and the economy.

Sincerely,


K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress

BROWNWOOD OFFICE:
BROWNWOOD CITY HALL
501 CENTER AVENUE
BROWNWOOD, TX 76801
TOLL FREE: (866) 882-3811

LLANO REGIONAL OFFICE:
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FAX: (325) 247-2676

MIDLAND REGIONAL OFFICE:
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-3605
FAX: (202) 225-1783

TEXAS HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



CAPITOL OFFICE:
P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
(512) 463-0331 PHONE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
36 WEST BEAUREGARD
SUITE 517
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76903

(325) 658-7313 PHONE
(325) 659-3762 FAX

Drew Darby

DISTRICT 72
COKE • MITCHELL • SCURRY • TOM GREEN

February 20, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER Grant Application for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from Sulphur Junction and Fort Stockton

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I would like to offer my complete support for the Texas Department of Transportation on its submission of the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program.

This project is vital to increasing the usage of the South Orient rail line and supporting the West Texas economy. The railroad is being utilized by many industries including agriculture, wind energy, and oil and gas in transporting their products. The project would greatly benefit communities and businesses from Sulphur Junction and Fort Stockton who utilize the rail line to improve the economy, their jobs, and most importantly their quality of life.

If approved, the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program would have a significant impact on all of Texas and offer rail connections from North America to our international trading partners at the Port of Topolobampo.

Therefore, I respectfully provide unconditional support to the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Drew Darby". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a long, horizontal stroke at the end.

Drew Darby
Texas State Representative

cc: Texas Department of Transportation



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4311

February 16, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write to express my support for the Texas Department of Transportation's TIGER IV (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program application for the South Orient Railroad. This project is vital to increasing the capacity of our railroad and supporting our economy.

The railroad is being utilized by many industries, including the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are an asset to persevering and utilizing our natural resources. These important lines need bridge maintenance, crossing rehabilitation, and rail replacement to increase the speed of the tracks train which average only 10-25 miles per hour currently. With the connections to the West and East, this project has the potential to impact all of Texas and into the rest of the States.

I respectfully submit my support to the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the TIGER IV Discretionary Grants Program for the South Orient Railroad project. This project will provide a tremendous boost to both our transportation system and the economy.

Sincerely,


K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress

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TOM GREEN COUNTY



MICHAEL D. "MIKE" BROWN
COUNTY JUDGE

March 2, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER Grant Application for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from San Angelo to Sulphur Junction

Dear Secretary LaHood,

Tom Green County is pleased to support the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program.

This project is vital to increasing the usage of our railroad and supporting our economy. The railroad is being utilized by many industries including the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are a tremendous asset to preserving and utilizing our natural resources. Currently, however, the lines are in a deteriorated condition so train speeds average 10-25 miles an hour. There are many places on the line that need bridge work, crossing rehabilitation, and rail replacement to increase the speed of the tracks. This project will improve the railroad and allow more businesses to utilize this transportation avenue.

This project will help our communities from San Angelo to Fort Stockton utilize the rail line to improve the economy, their jobs, and most importantly their quality of life. This project's possibilities do not stop there. With the connections to the West and East this project has the potential to influence all of Texas and into the rest of the States, not to mention the Port at Topolobampo, which can affect the commodity trade with the rest of the World. The potential for this project's ability to improve the economy and put people to work are endless.

We respectfully provide our support to the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project. This project will provide a tremendous boost to both our transportation system and our economy.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Brown

cc: San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization
Texas Department of Transportation, San Angelo District

122 West Harris ☆ San Angelo, Texas 76903 ☆ (325) 653-3318 ☆ (325) 659-3258 Fax
e-mail ☆ mike.brown@co.tom-green.tx.us
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The City of

San Angelo, Texas

P.O. Box 1751 • Zip 76902

March 7, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER IV Grant Application for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from Sulphur Junction to Fort Stockton

Dear Secretary LaHood,

The City of San Angelo is pleased to support the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generation Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program.

This project is vital to increasing the usage of our railroad and supporting our economy. The railroad is being utilized by many industries including the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are a tremendous asset to preserving and utilizing our natural resources. This project will improve the railroad and allow more businesses to utilize this transportation avenue.

This project will help our communities from San Angelo to Fort Stockton utilize the rail line to improve the economy, their jobs, and most importantly their quality of life. This project's possibilities do not stop there. With the connections to the West and East, this project has the potential to influence all of Texas and several states, not to mention the Port at Topolobampo, which can change the commodity trade with the rest of the World. The potential for this project's ability to improve the economy and put people to work are endless.

Through the efforts of TxDOT, the City, Tom Green County, and the San Angelo Development Corporation, along with the hard work of many people, Martifer Energy Systems started construction of a \$40 million wind-turbine manufacturing plant in San Angelo that will employ 225 people within four years. Martifer will be utilizing the railroad to ship their products. The opportunity exists for additional wind energy-related or green industry jobs to develop West Texas but we need to upgrade the rail line West of San Angelo to attract those businesses.

Should you have any questions regarding this project, feel free to contact me at (325) 657-4241.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Dane".

Michael Dane
Interim City Manager, City of San Angelo

cc: San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization
Texas Department of Transportation – San Angelo District

March 12, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER Grant Application for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from San Angelo to Fort Stockton

Dear Secretary LaHood,

On behalf of the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce representing over 1,100 business members, it is my great pleasure to heartily support TxDOT's submittal of the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program.

As you may be aware, the use of our short line railroad is increasing thanks to demand placed upon it by the energy and agriculture industries. The rehabilitation of the South Orient rail lines to the East of San Angelo is now complete, allowing rail traffic to operate at approximately 30 miles per hour. It is imperative for our regional economy that the rail lines west of San Angelo through Fort Stockton undergo this same rehab and upgrade to complete this important transportation component from Mexico, through West Texas, and on to Fort Worth. The critical need to rehab the 161.3 mile rail line prompts this grant request, as bridge work, crossing rehabilitation, and rail replacement are critical to commerce throughout this region as demand on the South Orient Orient/Texas Pacifico Rail line is growing substantially.

The communities west of San Angelo to Fort Stockton and throughout West Texas are generally declining in population at this time, and the improvement and increased use of the rail line will be an important step in positively impacting the economy of this entire region. In addition, the job creation and retention aspects of this project are very important to the community of San Angelo, which is growing but needs to sustain industries that are present in the area and have opportunity to expand.

Few would dispute the notion that transportation funding has reached crisis level for Texas and the rest of the nation. The TIGER Discretionary Grants Program is one of our few opportunities to match local funds to meet critical transportation needs. We therefore respectfully endorse and support the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the TIGER Discretionary Grant for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project. The completion of this plan will provide a tremendous boost to both our transportation system and the regional economy.

Sincerely,



Phil Neighbors, CCE
President

cc: San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization
Texas Department of Transportation, San Angelo District

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION SAN ANGELO

March 9, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER IV Grant Application for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from Fort Stockton to Sulphur Junction

Dear Secretary LaHood,

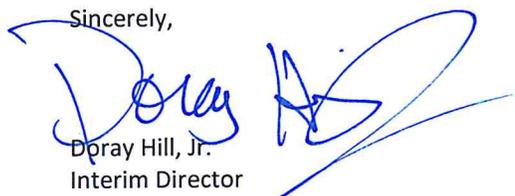
The San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization (SA-MPO) wholeheartedly supports the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the South Orient rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program. The rehabilitation of the deteriorated rail line will improve the economic competitiveness, livability, sustainability, safety, stimulate our economy, provide jobs, use an existing commodity in an innovative way, and enhance existing partnerships throughout our West Texas region.

This rail line is a vital element of our transportation system. It currently serves in the distribution of grain, agricultural, steel, paper, and sand commodities to-from numerous companies and cities. It helps with the congested highway system by transporting goods through the railroad, which in turn, in the end, will help with maintenance issues associated with the highways. Recent meetings with potential shippers indicate significant enthusiasm for increased use of this facility once repaired and upgraded. The line represents a considerable economic boom for the West Texas Region once upgraded to the point of viability due to its' connection to the West at the Port of Topolobampo and to the East with the Fort Worth region and beyond.

The rail is being increasingly utilized by the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are a tremendous asset to conservation of our natural resources and in West Texas; wind is one resource that is abundant. This project will help our communities from San Angelo to Fort Stockton utilize the rail line to improve the economy, their jobs, and most importantly their quality of life. This project's possibilities do not stop there. With the connections to the West and East this project has the potential to affect all of Texas and other states.

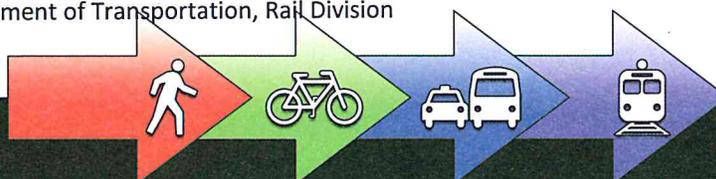
SA-MPO respectfully asks for your consideration of including the South Orient rail line from Sulphur Junction to Fort Stockton in your nominations for the TIGER IV Grant Program. Please feel free to contact me at 325-481-2800 and I can expand on why we feel this project is a great candidate for the grant program and how it will be an incredible boost to our transportation system.

Sincerely,



Doray Hill, Jr.
Interim Director

cc: Texas Department of Transportation, Rail Division



Livability · Mobility · Accessibility · Sustainability

March 12, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590



Re: TIGER Grant Application for the South Orient/
Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from San Angelo to Fort Stockton

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Angelo State University Small Business Development Center (ASU SBDC) is pleased to support the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program. The rehabilitation of the deteriorated rail line will improve the economic development opportunities such as competitiveness, sustainability, safety, innovation, and enhance existing partnerships throughout our West Texas region.

This rail line is a vital element of our transportation system. San Angelo's industry is comprised of agriculture, manufacturing, education services, businesses, health industry services, Goodfellow Air Force Base, retirement services and tourism. Our community is home to approximately 100,000 people and it serves as the trade and services hub to 13 surrounding counties. Ten of those counties are within the ASU SBDC's service area.

The line currently offers limited service, but it could represent a considerable economic boom for the West Texas Region once upgraded to the point of viability due to its' connection to the West at the Port of Topolobampo and to the East with the Fort Worth region and beyond. The railroad must become financially viable in order to make a comeback.

The rail is being increasingly utilized by the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are a tremendous asset to conservation of our natural resources and in West Texas, the one resource that we have plenty of is wind. This project will help our communities from San Angelo to Fort Stockton utilize the rail line to improve the economy, their jobs, and most importantly their quality of life. This project's possibilities do not stop there. With the connections to the West and East this project has the potential to affect all of Texas and into the rest of the States.

We provide our support to the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the Tiger Discretionary Grants Program for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project. We feel this project is a great candidate for the TIGER Grant Program and will be an incredible boost to both our transportation system and the small business economy of the Concho Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dave Erickson', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dave Erickson
Director and Certified Business Advisor IV

cc: San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization
Texas Department of Transportation, San Angelo District



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HOWARD COLLEGE

SAN ANGELO - OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

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March 2, 2012

Mr. Ray LaHood
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER Grant Application for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico Railroad Rehabilitation from San Angelo to Sulphur Junction

Dear Secretary LaHood,

Howard College is pleased to support the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grants Program.

This project is vital to increasing the usage of our railroad and supporting our economy. The railroad is being utilized by many industries including the agricultural and wind energy industries to transport their products. These industries are a tremendous asset to preserving and utilizing our natural resources. Currently, however, the lines are in a deteriorated condition so train speeds average 10-25 miles an hour. There are many places on the line that need bridge work, crossing rehabilitation, and rail replacement to increase the speed of the tracks. This project will improve the railroad and allow more businesses to utilize this transportation avenue.

This project will help our communities from San Angelo to Fort Stockton utilize the rail line to improve the economy, their jobs, and most importantly their quality of life. This project's possibilities do not stop there. With the connections to the West and East this project has the potential to influence all of Texas and into the rest of the States, not to mention the Port at Topolobampo, which can affect the commodity trade with the rest of the World. The potential for this project's ability to improve the economy and put people to work are endless.

We respectfully provide our support to the Texas Department of Transportation's submittal of the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program for the South Orient/Texas Pacifico rail line rehabilitation project. This project will provide a tremendous boost to both our transportation system and our economy.

Sincerely,

LeAnne Byrd
Provost, Howard College San Angelo

cc: San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization
Texas Department of Transportation, San Angelo District