



## Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization

"The world is run by those who show up"

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Cities of Texarkana, AR ♦ Texarkana, TX ♦ Wake Village, TX ♦ Nash, TX  
Miller County, AR ♦ Bowie County, TX

July 15, 2009

AHTD

Attn: Virginia Porta

10324 Interstate 30

P.O. Box 2261

Little Rock, Arkansas 72762

To Whom It May Concern:

As Study Director for the Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization I support the Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department (AHTD), in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MODOT) in their request for funding through the "TIGER" Supplemental Discretionary Grants program established in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the Interstate Highway 49/Bella Vista Bypass.

Interstate Highway 49, which was identified by the United States Congress as a high priority corridor, is crucial to the economic competitiveness of the United States. This corridor will have a positive impact on the economy of every region it serves and will improve the daily lives of millions of our citizens by reducing delay and minimizing the environmental impacts resulting from congestion on the existing system and rerouting of traffic to other capacity deficient facilities.

On behalf of the Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization, I encourage the United States Department of Transportation to award a grant to AHTD and MODOT for the construction of the IH 49/Bella Vista Bypass.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Brad McCaleb, P.E., A.V.S.

Study Director, Texarkana MPO

Cc: Mr. Jeff Hawkins - NWARPC



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