



March 6, 2012

Ms. Virginia Porta, Staff Planning Engineer
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
10324 Interstate 30 Room 107
Little Rock, AR 72209

To Whom It May Concern:

The Frontier Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board met on February 27, 2012 and approved by unanimous vote to support the AHTD TIGER IV Grant application for the US 71 Relocation/I-49 Project located in the Fort Smith region.

The Frontier MPO policy Board reaffirmed completion of I-49 Project as a Priority Project of Regional Significance in May of 2011.


This project is listed in the constrained project listing shown in the 2035 Frontier Metropolitan Transportation Plan and is programmed in the 2010 to 2013 Frontier MPO Transportation Improvement Program.

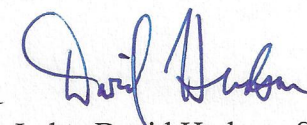
The project is located in a strategic geographic location to attract potential economic development opportunities related to the movement of people and goods across the United States by all modes of transportation.

This project provides connectivity to I-40, I-49, freight rail, and the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (M-40 Marine Highway Corridor).

On behalf of the Frontier Metropolitan Planning Organization, we encourage the United States Department of Transportation to consider funding the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's TIGER IV grant request for the I-49 Project.

Sincerely,


Mayor Bob Freeman, City of Van Buren
Frontier MPO Chairman


Judge David Hudson, Sebastian County
Frontier MPO Vice Chairman



**FORT CHAFFEE
REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**

March 14, 2012

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The Frontier Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy (MPO) Board met on February 27, 2012 and approved by unanimous vote to support the AHTD TIGER IV Grant application for the US 71 Relocation/I-49 Project located in the Fort Smith region.

The Frontier MPO policy Board reaffirmed completion of I-49 Project as a Priority Project of Regional Significance in May of 2011. This project is listed in the constrained project listing shown in the 2035 Frontier Metropolitan Transportation Plan and is programmed in the 2010 to 2013 Frontier MPO Transportation Improvement Program.

The project is located in a strategic geographic location to attract potential economic development opportunities related to the movement of people and goods across the United States by all modes of transportation.

This project provides connectivity from Chaffee Crossing to I-40, I-49, freight rail, and the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (M-40 Marine Highway Corridor).

On behalf of the Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority, we encourage the United States Department of Transportation to favorably consider funding the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's TIGER IV grant request for the I-49 Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivy Owen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ivy Owen, PCED, EDFP
Executive Director
Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority
Chaffee Crossing