



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



GEORGE N. CAMPBELL, JR.
COMMISSIONER

JEFF BRILLHART, P.E.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

August 18, 2009

Mr. Pat MacQueen
City Manager
Berlin City Hall
168 Main Street
Berlin, N.H.

Dear Mr. MacQueen:

I am writing in support of the City of Berlin's proposed project to form an Androscoggin Valley Consortium and apply for federal Transportation Investment Generating Economy Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant funding to upgrade and make serviceable local and regional roadways between Berlin and Colebrook along the northern tier of New Hampshire. Given the extreme weather conditions confronting this area of the state, coupled with the long decline in manufacturing jobs and the dramatic downturn in the region's economy over the past year, road conditions have worsened and revenues to turn them around have become even more scarce.

The TIGER Grant would create jobs, both in the near term for roadway reconstruction, and long-term as the economy improves with an improved highway system. The Grant would also position the communities and the state to shift from bringing forward expensive Capital Construction programs to bringing forward much more cost effective maintenance programs. Repairs to state routes NH 16 and NH 26 and the local roadways that feed into these routes would benefit the emerging economics of tourism and renewable energy in the North Country.

We look forward to a favorable response from the US Department of Transportation.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature of George N. Campbell, Jr.]
George N. Campbell, Jr.
Commissioner

cc: The Honorable John H. Lynch, Governor
Jeff Brillhart