## Congress of the United States Washington, D.C. 20515

April 15, 2013

The Honorable Tom Latham Chairman House Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee 2358-A Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Ed Pastor Ranking Member House Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee 1016 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Latham and Ranking Member Pastor:

We write to request that you provide an appropriation of \$500 million for the TIGER grant program in fiscal year 2014.

The American Society of Civil Engineers recently released a report estimating that we will need to invest \$3.6 trillion in infrastructure by the year 2020. Investment in infrastructure can be used to create jobs in communities throughout the United States building and repairing our nation's highways, bridges, and mass transit.

TIGER – formally known as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery – is a nationwide competitive grant program that creates jobs by funding investments in transportation infrastructure by states, local governments, and transit agencies. TIGER funds projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. In distributing grants under TIGER, the Secretary of Transportation is required to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of funds, a balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas, and investments in a variety of modes of transportation.

According to Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, "These are innovative, 21st century projects that will change the U.S. transportation landscape by strengthening the economy and creating jobs, reducing gridlock and providing safe, affordable and environmentally sustainable transportation choices."

We therefore urge you to invest in our nation's transportation infrastructure through an appropriation of \$500 million for the TIGER grant program in fiscal year 2014.

Sincerely,

Maxine Waters

Karen Bass

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### Page 1

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### Page 2

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### Page 3

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### Page 4

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### Page 5

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### Page 6

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Keith Ellison
Peter Welch

### Page 7

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