

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 31, 2012

The Honorable Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary La Hood:

We are writing in support of the TIGER Discretionary Grant application to provide federal funding for the construction of the Calumet-Sag Greenway Trail. The application has been submitted by the City of Blue Island on behalf of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, the Village of Dolton, the Dolton Park District, the Village of Riverdale, the City of Calumet City, the Village of Burnham, the Village of Alsip, and the Alsip Park District.

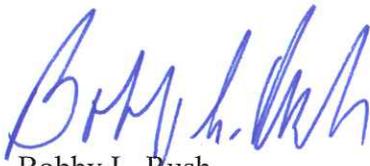
The Calumet-Sag Greenway Trail (the "Project") is located along the Calumet-Sag Channel and the Little Calumet River in southern Cook County, between Illinois Route 83 and the Calumet-Sag Channel in Lemont and the Burnham Greenway Trail in Burnham.

The project consists of constructing a 10-foot wide, 23.3-mile long bike trail along the Calumet-Sag Channel. The trail will connect to the existing Centennial and I&M Canal Trails at Illinois Route 83 at the west end and the Burnham Greenway Trail at the east end.

The proposed trail will provide an alternative means of transportation for a large segment of the south suburban area of Chicago. The trail will serve many residential, business, and industrial areas by providing an alternative to vehicular transportation, thus reducing congestion on the adjacent roadways. Furthermore, the project would provide direct connectivity to four Metra commuter rail service lines which serve the Chicago suburbs and provide direct linkages to Chicago Transit Authority bus and rail service.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Jesse L. Jackson Jr.
Member of Congress