



WORKING FOR BUSINESS. BELIEVING IN LUBBOCK.

1301 BROADWAY, SUITE 101
LUBBOCK, TX 79401
P 806.761.7000
F 806.761.7013
www.lubbockchamber.com

September 3, 2009

- Randy Jordan, Chairman
- Joe Rapier, Chairman-Elect
- Gary Gregory, Immediate Past Chairman
- Tim Collins, Treasurer
- Eddie McBride, Secretary
- Darin Camp, Vice Chairman
- Stephanie Massengale, Vice Chairwoman
- Mark Stiff, Vice Chairman
- Irasema Velasquez, Vice Chairwoman
- Brandon Mulkey, Vice Chairman
- Rudy Rosales, Vice Chairman
- Mike Arismendez, Past Vice Chairman
- Martin Aguirre
- Steve Beasley
- Gary Boren
- Rick Boyd
- John Brock
- Mike Cunningham
- Jeff Dane
- Linda Gaither
- Karen Garza
- Sandy Henry
- Monica Hightower
- Peter Hur
- Clayton Isom
- Dan Jackson
- Marc McDougal
- Juanita Mendoza
- Carlos Morales
- Brad Moran
- Cory Newsom
- Joe Phea
- Phil Price
- Shirley Schleuse
- David Seim
- Kelvin Sharp
- Michael Shonrock
- Noe Valles
- Gabe Vitela
- John Wilson
- Gary Zheng

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation
c/o TIGER Discretionary Grants Program Manager
U.S. Department of Transportation
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, representing some 2,200 businesses and their 57,000 employees on the Texas South Plains, writes to express our support for the following TIGER application on behalf of the Ports to Plains Trade Corridor Coalition and MOTRAN: Widening of US 349 between Lamesa and Midland.

This project would be a significant step in completion of the Ports to Plains Trade Corridor and La Entrada Al Pacifico. These two National High Priority Corridors provide linkages to Mexico and Canada and provide accessibility to major east-west routes in the U.S., thus enhancing the United States trade potential with Mexico and Canada and the ability for goods to reach major eastern and northern markets.

The expansion of this segment of roadway would enhance domestic and international trade in Texas, Mexico, Canada, and the United States; and save over \$300 in trucking costs, three hours in driving time, and three hours in wait time on a one way trip from Chihuahua City to Midland-Odessa further enhancing the competitive advantage in U.S. trade ; and shift some freight traffic from the congested I-25 in Colorado and I-35 in Texas.

We are proud to support this request for grant funding, and we would be happy to visit further about the exciting possibilities we see with this project. Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,

Eddie McBride
President

