



Victoria F. Sheehan
Commissioner

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



William Cass, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S. E.
Washington, DC 20590

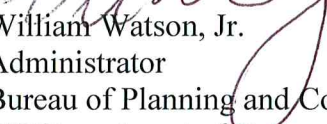
Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Planning Grant proposal submitted by the Town of Northwood NH, for the *Sherburne Brook Bridge infrastructure improvement project*.

Located between Dover and Portsmouth, Northwood, NH is the center of the Route 4 Commerce Corridor (RFCC). Northwood's access to the state highway system provides access to lakes for tourism, space for economic development and success with restaurants and antique shops, and easy access to regional educational opportunities at Coe-Brown Academy. The Town considers the highway infrastructure itself as its chief economic asset. One of two arterial roads to connect Northwood and the surrounding towns to the RFCC, Bow Lake Road has a 78-year-old bridge that has been placed on the New Hampshire Red Listed Bridge list. Bridge weight restrictions and closures will adversely impact commerce, economic development, traffic congestion, tourism, and transportation efficiency in the Town and surrounding areas to a significant degree. If the bridge is closed permanently, school busses, fire trucks, ambulances and commercial vehicles will need to use a longer and cumbersome alternate route.

This is an important investment for the town and region that would improve necessary infrastructure, maintain and enhance the quality of life of the area residents and promote economic development. I urge your strong consideration of the "*Sherburne Brook Bridge infrastructure improvement project*" application submitted for funding under the 2016 USDOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

Sincerely,


William Watson, Jr.
Administrator
Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance
NH Department of Transportation