

Gary C. Peters
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
9TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN
www.peters.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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December 20, 2011

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

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I write to you to share disappointing news regarding the Troy Intermodal Transit Center. This project was to be located in Troy, Michigan and received more than \$8 million in federal funding, mostly through the High Speed Rail program. The Department of Transportation has been a critical partner in providing the resources for this project to succeed, and I thank you for your leadership and assistance in this area. The transit center would have provided access to new high speed Amtrak rail along the Wolverine Corridor, as well as transfer points to SMART bus services, taxi and sedan connections, and connectivity options for patrons of the Oakland/Troy Airport.

Unfortunately, the newly elected leadership in Troy has decided to turn away from this important source of economic development and has rejected federal funds secured last year. While I am deeply disappointed by the City Council's decision, I know that there are many cities in southeast Michigan that support regional transit and want to see it succeed. Royal Oak is an enthusiastic partner in the goal to provide regional transit, and I believe a new transit center in Royal Oak's vibrant downtown would be an ideal access point to the BRT or Woodward Avenue Light Rail. We look forward to working with you and the Federal Railroad Administration to put forward other projects in region for consideration of eligible funding.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of high speed and intercity passenger rail and transit development in Michigan.

Sincerely,



Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress

DISTRICT OFFICE
560 KIRTS BLVD
SUITE #105
TROY, MI 48084
(248) 273-4227
FAX (248) 273-4704

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1609 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5802
FAX (202) 226-2356