

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2402

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND
ADMINISTRATION

April 18, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P. O. Box 429
Biloxi, Mississippi 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to express my strong support for the City of Biloxi's TIGER Discretionary grant application. The project to connect U. S. Highway 90 to Pass Road and on through to Popp's Ferry Road has been needed for a long time. Widening and replacing the existing drawbridge with a new Popp's Ferry High-Rise Bridge is a natural part of this application.

Replacing the old drawbridge will greatly enhance the flow of north-south traffic in Biloxi and allow safe, unimpeded movement of maritime vessels through the Back Bay of Biloxi to the Industrial Seaway. These improvements will give Biloxi another evacuation route in times of emergency. While also providing safety enhancements for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The regional Metropolitan Planning Organization identifies this project as among the highest transportation priorities for the entire Mississippi Gulf Coast. Popp's Ferry Road is essential to the area's economic activity, vital to the regional tourism industry and critical to the health, safety and welfare of the public during mandatory evacuations.

You are to be commended for your efforts to secure funding for these very important projects for the City of Biloxi and the entire Gulf Coast.

Sincerely



Thad Cochran
United States Senator

ROGER F. WICKER
MISSISSIPPI
ARMED SERVICES
BUDGET
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

SUITE 655
DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-6253
www.wicker.senate.gov

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 21, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Foxx,

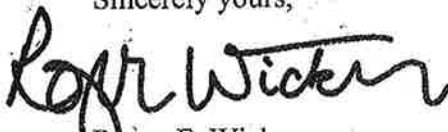
I would like to express my support for the City of Biloxi's application for a TIGER grant.

With funding from the Department of Transportation, Biloxi, Mississippi, intends to complete the north-south corridor from U.S. Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. The proposed project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket (Exit 41) interchange north to Shriners Boulevard. This project will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region, especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency. In addition, the project will support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi.

I hope that you will give the City of Biloxi's application every consideration. Should additional information be required from my office, please contact Mary Alice Browning of my staff at (601) 965-4644.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Roger F. Wicker

RFW/MAB

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2404

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please accept this letter as my endorsement for the City of Biloxi's TIGER Discretionary grant application requesting U.S. Department of Transportation funding to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region ~ especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency ~ and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

I stand with the City of Biloxi and put my full support behind this request and encourage the U.S. Department of Transportation to consider the vast economic development this project will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



Steven M. Palazzo
Member of Congress

WASHINGTON, DC:
331 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-5772
FAX: (202) 225-7074

BILOXI:
970 TOMMY MUNRO DRIVE, SUITE D
BILOXI, MS 39532
PHONE: (228) 864-7670
FAX: (228) 864-3099

HATTIESBURG:
641 MAIN STREET, SUITE 142
HATTIESBURG, MS 39401
PHONE: (601) 582-3246
FAX: (601) 582-3452



Celebrating 100 Years

State of Mississippi
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

April 18, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

COMMISSIONER TOM KING
SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Dear Mayor Gilich,

The Mississippi Department of Transportation is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region ~ especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency ~ and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

I sincerely thank you for your consideration and look forward to your selection of this project for TIGER grant funding.

Sincerely,

Tom King
Southern Transportation Commissioner



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND**

21 April 2016

81 TRW/CC
720 Chappie James Ave., Rm. 204
Keesler AFB MS 39534-2604

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

Thank you for your informative email of April 15, 2016, describing your two TIGER Discretionary grant applications requesting U.S. Department of Transportation funding to connect U.S. Highway 90 to Pass Road, widen and improve Popp's Ferry Road, and replace the existing drawbridge with a new Popp's Ferry High-Rise Bridge.

Unfortunately, our Joint Ethics Regulation (JER) 5500.7-R, precludes me from endorsing your applications in my capacity as Wing Commander. I wish you the best in this worthwhile endeavor.


MICHELE C. EDMONDSON, Colonel, USAF
Commander



COAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY

333 DeBuys Road, Gulfport, MS 39507-3897

(228) 896-8080 • Fax: (228) 896-8081

www.CoastTransit.com

April 19, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

The Coast Transit Authority is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region, especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency, support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

The Coast Transit Authority wholeheartedly supports and endorses Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. We stand ready to support this effort in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Kevin Coggin
Executive Director



Gulf Regional Planning Commission

Serving the Governments of the Mississippi Gulf Coast

April 21, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

The Gulf Regional Planning Commission (GRPC), serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Mississippi Gulf Coast, is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation for construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

Due to the linear geography of the Mississippi Gulf Coast region, north-south corridors are critical connections to access the major east-west corridors. The proposed project will complete a north-south corridor that would provide a much-needed connection between US Highway 90 and Interstate 10.

The concept of proper spacing between the major corridors is an important consideration in providing for the adequate, unrestricted movement of people and goods. As presented in the MPO's 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, an evaluation of the transportation network reveals a coverage gap in north-south mobility in west Biloxi. The proposed corridor would fill this important gap and improve the overall performance of the regional transportation system.

Our regional transportation system is intended to support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy as well as revitalize neighborhoods by attracting jobs and housing. As proposed, this project will provide direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67, for those working or visiting the Veterans Administration, local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center. Once completed, this corridor will alleviate traffic congestion on the adjacent north-south connectors, Cowan-Lorraine Road in the City of Gulfport and I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

Gulf Regional Planning Commission supports and endorses Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. We stand ready to support this effort in any way we can.

Sincerely,

GULF REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION


ELAINE G. WILKINSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HARRISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



730 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD., BILOXI, MS 39530-3854

April 21, 2016

OFFICE: (228) 435-8272

FAX: (228) 435-2682

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

I am pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. I understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region ~ especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency ~ and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

I wholeheartedly support and endorse Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. I stand ready to support this effort in any way I can.

Sincerely,

Beverly Martin
Harrison County Supervisor, District 1; Board President
Harrison County, Mississippi



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE



BILOXI BRANCH

P.O. Box 4149

Biloxi, MS 39535-4149

Phone: 228-432-0206

Fax: 228-432-0406

blxnaacp@cableone.net

Application #2: Popp's Ferry Road Extension, Construction of Woolmarket Connector Bridge to I-10's Woolmarket Exit 41; and Woolmarket Connector Roadway from the I-10 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard

Date: 16 April 2015

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

The Biloxi Branch NAACP is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region ~ especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency ~ and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

The Biloxi Branch NAACP wholeheartedly supports and endorses Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. We stand ready to support this effort in any way we can.

Sincerely,

James W. Crowell
President

Biloxi Branch NAACP



Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center
2350 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, Mississippi 39531

Phone: 228-594-3700
Fax: 228-594-3812

April 21, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

The Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region ~ especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency ~ and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

The Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center is wholeheartedly supports and endorses Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. We stand ready to support this effort in any way we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "D".

Matt McDonnell
Executive Director



Economic Partners for Over 55 Years

April 15, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

The Harrison County Development Commission is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

The Harrison County Development Commission wholeheartedly supports and endorses Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. We stand ready to support this effort in any way we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Hessel".

Bill Hessel
Executive Director

12281 Intraplex Parkway · Gulfport, Mississippi 39503
Telephone: 228.896.5020 · Fax: 228.896.6020
website: www.mscoast.org



BILOXI HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 447 • Biloxi, Mississippi 39533
(228) 374-7771 (TDD Accessible) • Fax (228) 432-8899
www.biloxihousing.org
"Making a Difference"



Application #2: Popp's Ferry Road Extension, Construction of Woolmarket Connector Bridge to I-10's Woolmarket Exit 41; and Woolmarket Connector Roadway from the I-10 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard

April 19, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich
City of Biloxi
P.O. Box 429
Biloxi, MS 39533

Dear Mayor Gilich:

The Biloxi Housing Authority is pleased to learn the City of Biloxi is seeking TIGER Discretionary grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the north-south corridor from US Highway 90 to Interstate 10, providing a much-needed additional evacuation route for Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors. We understand that the proposed grant project includes construction of a new Woolmarket Bridge and construction of a four-lane roadway to connect the I-10 Woolmarket Exit 41 interchange north to Shriners Boulevard.

This will greatly enhance transportation flow in the region ~ especially in terms of adding a much needed additional evacuation route in times of emergency ~ and support the expansion of public transportation services north of the Back Bay of Biloxi and improve public safety with the addition of sidewalks and designated bike lanes from the beach to North Biloxi. A more efficient transportation system also will support the continued growth and diversification of our regional economy.

Direct access to US Highway 90 from Interstate 10 and Highway 67 will benefit those working at or visiting Veterans Administration and local medical facilities, Keesler Air Force Base, major tourism attractions and the Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, as well as alleviate traffic congestion on I-110, Biloxi's only other north-south connector.

The Biloxi Housing Authority wholeheartedly supports and endorses Biloxi's application for TIGER Discretionary funds for completion of the Popp's Ferry Corridor. We stand ready to support this effort in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Delmar P. Robinson
Chairman of the Board
Biloxi Housing Authority