

Michael T. Tooley, Director

Steve Bullock, Governor



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October 2, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao U.S. Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: FY 2017 TIGER Discretionary Grant Application-Montana Highway 64 - Lone Mountain

Trail Road Improvement Project

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please consider the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)'s support for the Gallatin County request for 2017 TIGER grant funds to improve Montana State Highway 64 (MT-64).

MT-64, also known as Lone Mountain Trail Road, provides the main access from US-191 to Big Sky Montana.

The project includes adding intersection improvements and turn lanes at multiple locations, extending shared use paths and constructing a grade separated pedestrian crossing, installation of safety signing, and the purchase of motor coaches and vans for local programs to reduce congestion.

The TIGER program provides an opportunity to construct this much needed project which improves safety, connectivity in and around Big Sky while providing economic benefits to Gallatin and Madison Counties.

If funded, MDT and Gallatin County will need to complete an alignment evaluation consistent with MDT's shared use path policy for occupancy of highway right of way, which includes executing an agreement defining roles, responsibilities and requirements necessary for MDT approval to permit construction and maintenance of the improvements within MT-64 right of way.

If awarded TIGER funds, MDT will also complete any needed STIP actions to ensure there is no impact to the project schedule.

Thank you for your consideration of funding this project with TIGER discretionary funds.

Sincerely,

Mike Tooley Director

copies: Lynn Zanto, Rail, Transit & Planning Division Administrator

Jeff Ebert, P.E. -Butte District Administrator