



**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure**

**James L. Oberstar**  
Chairman

Washington, DC 20515

**John L. Mica**  
Ranking Republican Member

May 13, 2010

David Heysfeld, Chief of Staff  
Ward W. McCarragher, Chief Counsel

James W. Coon II, Republican Chief of Staff

Mr. Gene Dodaro  
Acting Comptroller General  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
441 G St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro:

I understand the GAO is conducting a review, at the request of Senator Kit Bond, of the U.S. Department of Transportation's process to evaluate, rate, and award grants to applicants under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) and High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) programs. These two programs received significant levels of federal funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, \$1.5 billion and \$8 billion respectively. I would like to join Sen. Bond as an original co-requestor on this GAO review.

As you can read from the attached letters I sent to Secretary LaHood in February, I am greatly concerned about the lack of transparency in the Department's evaluation and selection process for these large discretionary transportation grants. To date, the Department has not provided a responsive reply to my request for the evaluation and selection records. In particular, I believe it is important to make public the individual ratings each application received for these two programs, so that we can be assured the most highly rated projects were those that received awards of Recovery Act funds. This information should also be placed on the Department of Transportation website.

I look forward to working with the GAO as this study progresses. Please contact Joyce Rose, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines & Hazardous Materials in regard to this issue at (202) 226-0727.

Sincerely,

**John L. Mica**  
Ranking Republican Member

Attachments



**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure**

Washington, DC 20515

February 24, 2010

James L. Oberstar  
Chairman

John L. Mica  
Ranking Republican Member

David Heymsfeld, Chief of Staff  
Ward W. McCarragher, Chief Counsel

James W. Coon II, Republican Chief of Staff

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

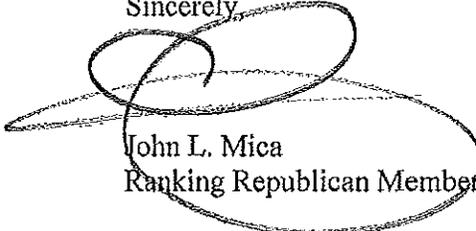
As the Republican Leader on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I am requesting the Department to provide me with all records related to the selection of high-speed rail grant recipients under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

These records should include, at a minimum, all applications, records of internal deliberations, communications between the Department and outside entities including the applicants, private parties, and Amtrak, as well as any scoring or ranking of the various projects.

In addition, I am requesting the Department to post this information on its website and to ensure it is presented in a format that is easily searchable and accessible to the public.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,



John L. Mica  
Ranking Republican Member



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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As the Republican Leader on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I am requesting the Department to provide me with all records related to the selection of Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant recipients under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

These records should include, at a minimum, all applications, records of internal deliberations, communications between the Department and outside entities including the applicants and private parties, as well as any scoring or ranking of the various projects.

In addition, I am requesting the Department to post this information on its website and to ensure it is presented in a format that is easily searchable and accessible to the public.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,



John L. Mica  
Ranking Republican