



South Bend Public Transportation Corporation

March 11, 2008

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar  
United States Senate  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

As Congress begins the Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations process, on behalf of the South Bend Public Transportation Corporation, I respectfully submit for your consideration this request for a federal appropriation to complete the construction of the TRANSPO Bus Operations Center in South Bend, Indiana. As you may recall, this project has been underway for several years, and thanks to your continued support, our fundraising efforts are nearly complete.

TRANSPO seeks your support of an appropriation of \$5,628,692 in the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus Facilities account through the fiscal year 2009 Transportation and HUD Appropriations bill and/or through the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program in the FY 2009 Energy and Water Appropriations bill to complete the construction of a new LEED-certified bus maintenance and administration facility in South Bend, Indiana. The site is currently being prepared for construction, a project design has been chosen, and construction is scheduled to begin this spring.

South Bend Public Transportation Corporation (TRANSPO) is a growing transit agency that operates from a maintenance and administrative facility that has been in continuous use since the 1880's, and is in need of replacement. The maintenance repair area of the current facility cannot sufficiently meet the service demands of TRANSPO's growing bus fleet. The aging facility is rapidly deteriorating and has significant structural damage. In addition, the current building was not designed with enough space to service TRANSPO's new buses, which are much larger than its previous generation of vehicles. The site for the new facility is in the heart of South Bend's Studebaker Corridor, and will serve as a catalyst for economic development in an area targeted by the City for revitalization. Further, TRANSPO is committed to constructing the first LEED Platinum building in Indiana, and the first LEED Platinum transit facility in the country.

Senator, we are extremely grateful for your ongoing support of TRANSPO, and I look forward to working with you and your staff on this important initiative this year. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oliver J. Davis, Jr.", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Oliver J. Davis, Jr.  
Chairman, Board of Directors