CITY OF SOUTH BEND

STEPHEN J. LUECKE, MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

February 27, 2009

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

As Congress begins the Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations process, I respectfully submit for your consideration the following four requests for the City of South Bend. Each of these projects would provide much needed funds to support the City's top priorities for health and human services, the environment, youth development and energy efficiency. I would be deeply grateful for your support of the following initiatives:

1. **KROC Community Center Educational Programming ($600,000)**
   St. Joseph County graduation rates are among the lowest in the State of Indiana. Educational achievement must begin with early interventions, when academic enrichment can make strong inroads with regards to the core competencies. The City of South Bend and The Salvation Army of St. Joseph County have been provided with an unprecedented opportunity to provide community-focused programming to a low-income, highly diverse population in South Bend in form of interactive math, science and reading educational opportunities at the newly endowed Kroc Community Center. Through partnerships with local schools districts, hospitals, and colleges, we will be assisting youth in developing a functional knowledge of themselves and the potential in their lives, and increase academic achievement. On-going evaluation will ensure that the activities provided by the Kroc Center are meaningful and worth investments.

2. **CSO Smart Sewers Network ($1 million)**
   As you may recall, the City has sought to address the combined sewer overflow problem by embedding an advanced "smart" sensor system into our combined sewer system. This system manipulates valves, via nanotechnology, to help store and convey water and sewage in a more effective way. Using this smart sewer system, the City has been able to better use our sewer capacity as the sensors react to increases in flow and volume and remotely activate valves to divert storm water. Through high tech coordination, highly contaminated water that follows during a precipitation event is restricted and contained until the system is able to process it thoroughly. Phase I of the network system has been built and embedded in the water sewer system, particularly at key intersections of combined sewer lines.

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To fully install the system, the City's 500 miles of pipes will require 245 sensoring nodes, placed at key locations, and 46 Smart Valves, which will optimize storage for treatment after the peak of a storm event. This environmental control technology has helped the City accelerate its schedule of compliance with the EPA's Clean Water Act consent decree regarding the St. Joseph River.

3. **Hydroelectric Turbine Project ($12.2 million)**
The St. Joseph River has always been the heart of South Bend. For many years, the River has played a central role to the City of South Bend and its community. The current dam on the St. Joseph River at Century Center is owned by the City. In the past 5 years the city has invested over $3 million in local funds to improve the dam with the ultimate goal to eventually introduce new technology (small, lightweight, turbines) into old sources of energy (flowing rivers and blowing winds) in order to generate electricity. The City anticipates the project will deliver power by transmission line to a municipal power use, the wastewater treatment plant, to further benefit the environment, and the ratepayers of the municipal wastewater utility who are for the most part the taxpayers of South Bend.

4. **At-Risk Youth Initiative ($120,000)**
The City of South Bend and its related law enforcement partners have consistently been proactive in efforts to address gang and violent crime. However, enforcement is only one aspect in reducing violent crime and gang involvement; it is necessary to provide at-risk youth with safe alternatives to crime. To that end, the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) is developing a Police Athletic League that will be a necessary component in its efforts to prevent gang and violent crime. In concert with that effort, the SBPD looks to expand its programming for at-risk youth to give them safe, educational, and healthy activities that keep them out of trouble.

I greatly appreciate your ongoing support of City of South Bend, and look forward to continuing to work with you and your dedicated staff this year to serve the citizens of South Bend. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Luecke, Mayor
City of South Bend