



February 8, 2010

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

**CITY OF
TERRE HAUTE
MAYOR'S OFFICE**

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DUKE A. BENNETT
Mayor

Dear Senator Lugar:

As the United States Senate begins the Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations process, the City of Terre Haute respectfully submits for your consideration the Margaret Avenue Enhancement initiative designed to mitigate traffic congestion and allow for additional commercial and retail development along the thoroughfare, which is the most congested street in the city.

As you are aware, Margaret Avenue - running along the city's south side - is a very heavily traveled artery located in an expanding commercial/residential district. New developments at both ends of Margaret Avenue have caused a significant increase in traffic. To address the increase in congestion and create an area suitable to attract new business and economic growth, the city is undertaking improvements to Margaret Avenue.

The requested Fiscal Year 2011 funds will be used to support the next phase of the Margaret Avenue project. These improvements are an integral component of the city's long-term strategy to address serious congestion problems throughout the city. Furthermore, the Margaret Avenue project helps to improve regional air quality by reducing vehicle emissions normally associated with transportation network delays and congestion. Additionally, the enhancements to Margaret Avenue will ultimately bring additional businesses to the area, creating new jobs and sustainable growth. As important, the subsequent phases of Margaret Avenue enhancements - totaling about \$9 million - will employ approximately 30 people.

Thank you for your consideration of this project. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Duke A. Bennett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Duke A. Bennett
Mayor