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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

MIKE DOYLE

14TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood
Secretary

U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to offer my strong support of the Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program (TCSP) grant application submitted by the Ohio River Trail Council for a 2.5-mile bike and pedestrian segment of the Ohio River Trail in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This critical trail is a part of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, located in a metropolis of 27 linked municipalities which have been working to recover from the economic downside of the industrial era and to rebuild the riverfronts to a point of pride. The Ohio River Trail will provide a safe route for alternative transportation on foot and on bicycles, and increase interest in the growing economies on the waterfront. This grant application is critical step toward achieving that goal.

The Ohio River Trail (ORT) project is a partnership project between the Ohio River Trail Council and the 27 municipalities along the 41-mile proposed trail that follows the shores of the Ohio River, just downstream from Pittsburgh. The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA-DCNR) has supported this vision through grants for two Feasibility Studies – the North Shore and the South Shore sections. For this application, the focus is to start implementation of the ORT South Shore Trail Feasibility Study.

I strongly support this project and the application submitted by the Ohio River Trail Council. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress