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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 17, 2012

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to call your attention to the Ohio River Trail Council and its application for financial assistance from the Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program for a 2.5-mile bike and pedestrian trail.

The Ohio River Trail project is part of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area's efforts to restore communities that were once thriving because of the steel industry. The project will extend the existing Montour Trail and Great Allegheny Passage into the core of downtown Coraopolis, and along the Ohio River to Moon Township. The 2.5 mile trail is part of a larger initiative by the Ohio River Trail Council to complete a 41-mile trail connecting 27 municipalities along the Ohio River.

This project is intended to benefit the Southwestern Pennsylvania region by providing increased economic and recreational opportunities for communities involved and along the trail. Once the 41-mile trail project is completed, it will have created a system of trails connecting Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia together.

I urge you to give this proposal for funding your full and fair consideration. Thank you for your time attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Tim Murphy
Member of Congress