



CITY OF EVANSVILLE

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
LLOYD WINNECKE

March 8, 2012

Mr. Kent McDaniel
Policy Committee Chairman
Bloomington/Monroe Metropolitan Planning Organization
401 N. Morton Street, Suite 160
P.O. Box 100
Bloomington, IN 47402

Mr. Chairman:

As Mayor of the City of Evansville, I respectfully request that the Bloomington/Monroe Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee support the inclusion of Section 4, of the Interstate 69 project, in your 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

I share the opinion of numerous local, state, and federal officials that Interstate 69 is vitally important to the continued growth and development of southwest Indiana.

In 2007, the U.S. Department of Transportation designated Interstate 69 as a national "Corridor of the Future" stating that the highway is a project of regional and national significance. As you know, the Interstate 69 route extends from Michigan to Texas, placing the state of Indiana in a strategic location along this international trade route.

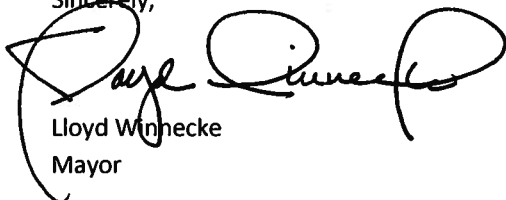
Our state has made tremendous progress on Interstate 69 and it is projected this summer to be the largest transportation project in the entire country. Evansville, Washington, Petersburg, Loogootee and numerous other communities in southwest Indiana have waited decades to be fully linked to the state's economy job creation and build a safer connection to our rural areas.

With the project under construction and finally becoming a reality, attempts to temporarily halt or delay the project through procedural actions, or the court system, is a waste of taxpayer money and a complete disregard to the majority of citizens statewide that support this project.

Whether you agree or disagree that the highway should be built, that debate is now irrelevant. Now is the time to work together to effectively plan for the Interstate that is quickly headed your way.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to cultivating a stronger economic link between our cities as a result of the completion of Interstate 69.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Winnecke
Mayor