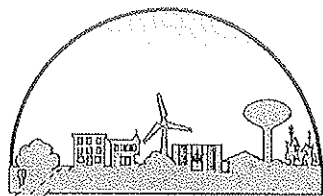


1209 6th Street
P.O. Box 530
Nevada, IA 50201-0530



City of Nevada

Phone: (515) 382-5466
Fax: (515) 382-4502
cityhall@midiaowa.net

The Honorable Congressman Tom Latham
2217 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

April 16, 2009

Dear Congressman Latham:

I am writing to ask for your assistance in an important project the City of Nevada must undertake. U.S. Highway 30 in Iowa runs 331 miles from the Missouri River to the Mississippi River. The City of Nevada, just 6 miles east of Interstate 35, relies on this highway to move products manufactured in our community, carry commuters to and from work and for farm to market transportation. U.S. Highway 30 corridor is a key east-west lifeline for intrastate and interstate commerce. It is part of the National Highway System and a major arterial roadway on the statewide Commercial and Industrial Highway Network (CIN). Additionally, it is a major freight intermodal corridor across the state due in part to the parallel Union Pacific Railroad main east-west route not allowing additional terminals along its mainline.

The Nevada Economic Development Council, City of Nevada, Story County, Union Pacific Railroad and Iowa DOT have made transportation along this corridor a priority concern.

Approximately 90 percent of the right of way for the interchange was purchased by the Iowa DOT in 1994 and 1995 in preparation of this project. The Iowa DOT included construction of the S-14 and 6th Street Interchange in its 2000 Five-Year Program, with construction scheduled for 2005-6. The project was dropped from the Program in 2001 due to financial considerations. Now, with the support of the Iowa DOT, the City of Nevada is planning to complete conceptual design to replace three at-grade U.S. Highway 30 intersections with an interchange and overpass. The project will remove two at-grade railroad crossings and will increase safety and realign city roads to improve safety at one additional railroad crossing. Last, the Iowa DOT has a very specific process for public input that the City will support during the design phases of the project.

The City of Nevada has committed \$1,000,000.00 toward the interchange improvement project. The city will work with the Iowa DOT Commission to program the remaining \$2,000,000 match for the requested federal allocation. A 2007 estimate of costs from the Iowa DOT is \$15,000,000.00.

Please consider our request for funding to accelerate this needed project. The interchange improvements would enhance public safety, quality of life and will also be a useful selling point in our efforts to attract businesses to Nevada and the immediate surrounding area for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Gearold Gull II

Gearold Gull, Mayor
515-382-5466

Enc.

Heartland, Heritage and Horizons...Nevada, Iowa