



## Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.  
SECRETARY

October 27, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: TIGER III Discretionary Grant Application S.R. 30/U.S. 98 and Cody Avenue Single Point Urban Interchange Entrance to Hurlburt Field

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As you and your staff at the U.S. Department of Transportation review the applications for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER III) Discretionary Grant funding, I respectfully urge your strong consideration of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) application for funding for interchange improvements on U.S. 98 at the entrance of Hurlburt Field in Okaloosa County, Florida.

This important project will create a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) at the entrance to Hurlburt Field, which is the Headquarters of the Air Force Special Operations Command and the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Wing. The SPUI will improve access and capacity to Hurlburt Field, enhance safety, and improve response time for personnel living off base.

The right-of-way necessary to construct the interchange will be entirely on federal property and coordination to secure the appropriate easements is currently underway with Eglin Air Force Base Real Estate. The environmental documents have been signed by the Department of Defense and are currently under review to ensure compliance with Federal Highway Administration requirements. Construction on this design build project is currently estimated at \$21.2 million and can begin in 2013 with the needed \$16.2 million TIGER funds.

Thank you for your consideration of this application and project. Should you or your staff have any questions or need additional information, please contact James T. Barfield, P.E., District Three Secretary, at (850) 415-9200 or via e-mail at [tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:tommy.barfield@dot.state.fl.us).

Sincerely,

Ananth Prasad, P.E.  
Secretary