

**ROGER HARMON
JOHNSON COUNTY JUDGE**

Alison Hitchcock, Administrative Assistant
Holly Morris, Budget Coordinator



Rexann Knowles, Secretary
Debbie Rice, Grant Coordinator

#2 Main St – Johnson County Courthouse, Cleburne, Texas 76033

June 4, 2010

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

Dear Honorable Ray LaHood:

Johnson County, Texas is pleased that the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) is orchestrating efforts to secure the TIGER II Grant Funding to complete the Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail Parkway Project. Johnson County has championed this project for over 34 years in coordination with the City of Cleburne as evidenced by our acquisition of needed right-of-way, easements, and other in-kind contributions with an approximate value of \$155,272.50 plus. Implementation of this project will enable the County to address the following critical areas which are necessary to achieve and maintain a robust community: safety, economic development, congestion, sustainability, and quality of life.

Specifically, this project will provide the following direct, indirect and/or cumulative benefits for our community, number one being safety. There have been 9 fatalities at two at-grade intersections on this roadway in the last 8 years not including injury accidents. The second is the widely anticipated construction of Texas Hwy. 121 which will link Cleburne and Johnson County with the Metropolitan Dallas-Fort Worth area. The third critical area is the need to alleviate traffic congestion currently on the I-35 Corridor, which is heavily traveled.

Failure to receive funding will exacerbate an already dangerous safety issue which the State of Texas and the Federal Government have been unable to cure due to lack of funding and it will increase the congestion currently felt on I-35 and also that which is anticipated upon the opening of Texas State Highway 121.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at 817-556-6360 or by email at countyjudge@johnsoncountytexas.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Harmon".

Roger Harmon
Johnson County Judge

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