

Kay Walls

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COPY

701 Hyde Park Blvd.
Cleburne, Texas 76033
817-645-2108

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

Dear Mr. LaHood:

I am writing to recommend to you for consideration of an appropriate TIGER II Grant, the Southwest Parkway / Chisholm Trail Parkway project extending Texas Hwy 121 from downtown Fort Worth to Cleburne, Texas.

The completion of this much needed roadway will provide highly improved access for citizens of Johnson County (county seat, Cleburne), many of them commuters, into the southern, western and central Fort Worth areas and beyond, including to the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport and other "mid-cities" destinations.

Currently the route, Texas Hwy 174, passes through the towns of Joshua and Burleson, several school zones and involves more than two dozen signal lights between Cleburne and IH35W. The Parkway will reduce travel time and fuel consumption and improve safety in school zones. This highway will do away with much of the congestion experienced by Hwy 174 travelers throughout the day.

With improved access into and from the Dallas-Fort Worth "metroplex" there will be renewed growth activity in southern Tarrant and Northern Johnson counties. New families, new homes and the businesses and other infrastructure required to service the growth will be of substantial economic benefit to the areas served by the Parkway for many years.

I am a former governor's appointee to the Board of Directors of NTTA and a lifetime resident of Cleburne, a former Trustee of the Cleburne Independent School District and an active community volunteer. I ask that you give the Southwest Parkway / Chisholm Trail Parkway project every possible consideration as you allocate TIGER II Grant funding.

Very truly yours,

Kay Walls