



# GALLATIN COUNTY

311 West Main, Rm. 306 • Bozeman, MT 59715

County Commission

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September 10, 2009

Jim Skinner  
Manager – Program and Policy Bureau  
2701 Prospect Ave  
PO Box 201001  
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Subject: MT 85 Four Corners – North Project

Dear Jim,

The collective Gallatin County Commission wishes voice its continued support for the Four Corners North Project on MT 85 (N-85).

We understand funding for this proposed project will accelerate the development to reconstruct a segment of Montana Highway 85 (N-85), locally known as Jackrabbit Lane, from a two-lane facility to a four-lane facility with dedicated turn lanes and signalization at major intersections. The project begins in a developed, but unincorporated area of the county known as Four Corners and extends northward towards the city of Belgrade. A portion of U.S. 191 (N-50) is also included to properly configure the Jackrabbit Lane/Huffine Lane intersection. The project begins approximately 0.4 miles south of the Jackrabbit and Huffine Lane intersection and continues north approximately 3.8 miles ending 0.4 miles north of the Jackrabbit/Hulbert Lanes intersection.

We also encourage MDT to extend the project's scope of work an additional 2.5 miles to the intersection of Frank Road and Jackrabbit Lane as originally planned, to enhance safety on MT 85 at the higher volume intersections with Valley Center Road and Cameron Bridge Road and greatly improve the overall corridor by keeping the road geometrics consistent. We believe this proposed improvement will not only facilitate better traffic flow for the high volume of traffic that MT 85 currently handles, but will provide a much safer corridor for intersecting roads by reducing the number of "T" bone and rear end collisions associated with non-signalized intersections on high speed highways. We fully support and appreciate all efforts to enhance the safety of the traveling public by construction of these facilities.

As partners in the East Belgrade Interchange Project, we see a direct benefit by improving the congestion and signalizing critical intersections to ensure ease of movement for the traveling public and to ultimately improve safety for them. Once the

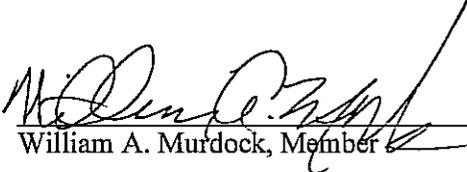
major connecting arterials (MT 85 and SS 285) are improved, we feel the viability of the interchange project will be solidified.

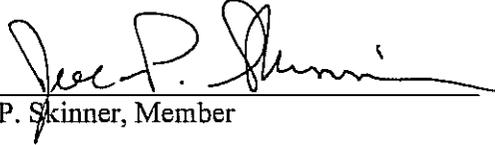
We thank you for your continued efforts concerning this project and look forward to its eventual completion. Please contact Lee Provance at (406)-582-3250, regarding any questions or additional information you may need from Gallatin County.

Sincerely,

GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSION

Unavailable for signature  
R. Stephen White, Chair

  
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William A. Murdock, Member

  
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Joe P. Skinner, Member