



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

November 8, 2010

The Honorable Scott Walker
c/o the Office of County Executive
901 N 9th Street
Courthouse, Room 306
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Governor-elect Walker:

Congratulations on your election.

As you know, we have a difference of opinion about the value of a Midwest high-speed rail network. I believe that connecting Wisconsin to Chicago and Minneapolis-St. Paul will create thousands of jobs and spur economic development along these routes. In addition, I have obtained commitments from more than 30 foreign rail manufacturers to locate their base of operations in the United States so that we can restart idled manufacturing plants here at home and put our skilled workers back on the job.

Nevertheless, I respect the power of governors to make decisions for their states. There seems to be some confusion, however, about how these high-speed rail dollars can be spent. For this reason, I would like to set the record straight: None of the money provided to Wisconsin may be used for road and highway projects, or anything other than high-speed rail. Consequently, unless you change your position, we plan to engage in an orderly transition to wind down Wisconsin's project so that we do not waste taxpayers' money.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ray LaHood", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Ray LaHood

cc: Governor Jim Doyle