

# RIVER RIDGE

## DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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January 6, 2012

Mr. John Sacksteder  
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**RE: SEIS Public Comment**

To the Ohio River Bridges Project management team:

As executive director of River Ridge Development Authority, I'd like to express support for the efforts of Commonwealth of Kentucky and the State of Indiana to build the Ohio River Bridges Project, which includes the construction of two new bridges to connect Kentucky and Indiana, and the re-building of an improved interchange of I-65, I-64, and I-71. The Bridges Project will directly serve River Ridge and will provide tremendous interstate access to the tenants of our 6,000 acre industrial site.

In our ongoing marketing efforts we continually find the Bridges Project to be at the top of list in terms of site selection concerns and the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) demonstrates that the project's purpose and need has not changed. Our region is still plagued by traffic congestion, accidents, injury and delay and we do not have adequate cross-river mobility.

The Bridges Project, with the revision proposed in the 2011 modified alternative, clearly will meet the community's most pressing need of safety and mobility. The modified project will deliver all three needed components, two new bridges and a rebuilt Kennedy Interchange, at significantly lower cost. In addition, there will be less need for right-of-way and property acquisition and less impact on Waterfront Park and other important assets.

The recent Sherman Minton Bridge closure has provided a strong reminder of the necessity of the Bridges Project and it is evident that losing any additional transportation access across the Ohio River would cripple our regional economy.

As an important transportation gateway from north to south, and with Louisville serving as nationwide center for logistics and distribution, our current congestion is hindering interstate commerce. If the Bridges Project does not move forward, our region's congestion issues will stifle our regional economy.

We thank you for your work with the Bridges Project and ask that the SEIS be finalized and approved to move the project forward as quickly as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jerry G. Acy, CEcD  
Executive Director

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