## East Central Intergovernmental Association a regional response to local needs

## May 2020

Office of the Secretary of Transportation, USDOT

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants)

## Greetings,

On behalf of the East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA), I would like to offer my full support of the Highway 38 Improvements project and the BUILD grant that the City of Tipton is applying for to help pay for this critical project. As a City partner, we value any project which enhances connectivity within the community as it surely leads to increased economic opportunity as well as improved quality of life.

ECIA is a council of governments, serving Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson Counties and provides technical assistance and project coordination in the following areas: Community Development, Economic Development, Housing Assistance, Employment and Training, Transit, and Transportation and Planning. ECIA will help administer the grant if awarded and is also involved in other community development initiatives in Tipton.

The Highway 38 Improvements project will:

- increase pedestrian and motorist safety
- eliminate or reduce flooding and improve wastewater collection and treatment
- improve pedestrian and recreational connectivity with important points-of-interest and recreational opportunities
- strengthen fire-protection capabilities
- enhance streetscapes and encourage cleanup and other development

The Highway 38 Improvements project represents a planned-out priority, is supported by diverse partners, and <u>most importantly the project is design- and shovel-ready with all required approvals</u> <u>obtained and cash match ready to use</u>. For these reasons, I encourage you to support this application and assist the City of Tipton and its partners in continuing the momentum to become a major regional engine of economic growth. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelley H. Deutmeyer ECIA Executive Director

| Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study | Eastern Iowa Development Corporation | Eastern Iowa Regional Utility Services System | Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority | ECIA Business Growth, Inc. | | Region 1 Employment and Training | ECIA Regional Planning Affiliation | Region 8 Regional Transit Authority |