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4/30/2020

Office of the Secretary of Transportation, USDOT  
Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants)

Greetings,

On behalf of J & L Pipeline Services, Inc. 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 business partner, we value any project which enhances the quality of life in the community because that attracts and retains employees.

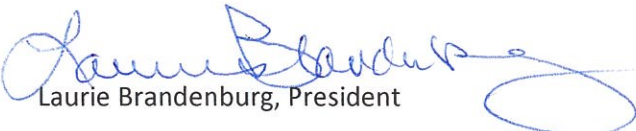
The Highway 38 Improvements project will:

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

Our pipeline maintenance business conducts business locally as well as nationally. I am in support of Tipton, Iowa's BUILD Grant application for a number of reasons, both as a business owner and as member of the community. The improvements and enhancements to Highway 38 as stated in Tipton's BUILD Grant application will positively affect my business, as well as bring important improvements to the City of Tipton. Our company utilizes heavy construction equipment which we haul on HWY 38. Having the highway reconstructed, including additional lighting, pavement markings and improved traffic signals will make it much safer for us to haul our oversized equipment through town. Our company also offers safety training to numerous other contractors throughout Iowa and Minnesota. These contractors typically attend this training at our facility in Tipton. The additions mentioned above, as well as walking trails and bike trails will give our trainees who are visiting from out of town a better opportunity to access the various attractions that Tipton has to offer. Our office staff would be able to use the walking/bike trail daily during the lunch hour. These improvements will make the City of Tipton more welcoming to visitors who are here from out of town, as well as safer and more convenient for those who live and work in this community.

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

Sincerely,

  
Laurie Brandenburg, President

J & L Pipeline Services, Inc.