



## HEADQUARTERS IOWA NATIONAL GUARD

Construction & Facilities Management Office  
*Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center*  
7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1824

September 13, 2018

Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. Chao:

The Des Moines Area Transload Facility project would provide a key mobilization capability to the Iowa Army National Guard in support of our Federal Mission to Deploy, Fight, and Win our Nations wars. The inclusion of the planned military vehicle rail load capabilities into the project would decrease the Iowa Army National Guard's projected mobilization timelines by 40%, decrease costs by a projected 50%, and save related manpower by reducing the need to travel up to 600 miles to reach a similar capability.

In addition, the military vehicle rail load capabilities of this project would allow for more efficient, less expensive, and safer shipment of armored vehicles to and from The Army National Guard's national level Sustainment Training Center located Camp Dodge, only 9 miles from the proposed Transload Facility.

Based on the factors listed above, the Iowa Army National Guard offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John J. Perkins", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

John J. Perkins  
Colonel, Iowa Army National Guard  
Construction and Facilities Management  
Officer



**JOHN DEERE**

John Deere Des Moines Works  
825 SW Irvinedale Drive  
Ankeny, IA 50023 USA  
Phone: 515-289-3001 Cell: 563-217-0002  
E-mail: FoxRosalindEP@JohnDeere.com

**Rosalind E. Peebles Fox**  
Factory Manager  
Agriculture & Turf Division

July 18, 2018  
Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT – DES MOINES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BUILD GRANT APPLICATION**

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Des Moines Area Transload Facility project is vital to the transportation and economy of the Greater Des Moines region with global reaching impacts. The project includes the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines. This facility will have access to three Class I railroads and one Class II railroad, and will provide a vital connection between Central Iowa and our coastal ports. Transloading opportunities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility. The facility would also spur additional development from businesses that desire to export and import goods via rail. The development of the Des Moines Transload Facility aligns closely with the goals and performance measures of Mobilizing Tomorrow, the regions long-range transportation plan. Specifically, goals that relate to reducing congestion on roadways, and providing alternative freight transportation options to shippers in the region. The Des Moines Transload Facility supports these goals by improving the safety of our roads and strengthening the regional economy.

Based on the factors listed above, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Rosalind EP Fox  
Factory Manager

October 2, 2017

Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT – DES MOINES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION INFRA GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Des Moines Area Transload Facility project is vital to the transportation and economy of the Greater Des Moines region with global reaching impacts. The project includes the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines. This facility will have access to three Class I railroads and one Class II railroad, and will provide a vital connection between Central Iowa and our coastal ports. Transloading opportunities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility. The facility would also spur additional development from businesses that desire to export and import goods via rail.

The development of the Des Moines Transload Facility aligns closely with the goals and performance measures of Mobilizing Tomorrow, the regions long-range transportation plan. Specifically, goals that relate to reducing congestion on roadways, and providing alternative freight transportation options to shippers in the region. The Des Moines Transload Facility supports these goals by improving the safety of our roads and strengthening the regional economy.

Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations has a large tire manufacturing facility in Des Moines and distributes agricultural and forestry tires from two locations in Des Moines to customers around the world. Having freight infrastructure in the area provides options for shippers including Bridgestone.

Based on the factors listed above, Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



John Wahlert  
Logistics Supply Chain Manager  
Agricultural Tire U.S. & Canada Commercial Tire Sales Division  
Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations  
1825 NE 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50313



JULY 12, 2018

Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Des Moines Area Metro Planning Organization Build Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

American Ground Screw, Inc. is a national importer and distributor of manufactured steel foundation solutions which replace traditional concrete foundation footings. When looking for locations for our company, our owners selected Des Moines given its central location and the ease of developing strong, local business partnerships that would benefit both our development as offer us the opportunity to contribute to the development of the economy of the community as a whole. We write in strong support of the proposed Des Moines Transload Facility because we see it as directly benefiting our business operations as well as the development of those partnerships that have made the Greater Des Moines area such an excellent location for us.

Currently our company must rely on container deliveries by truck from Kansas City for our imported inventory. This adds on average 2-3 days time, and significant challenges in scheduling delivery given new regulations in the trucking industry. Having direct delivery of containers via rail in to Des Moines will not only greatly improve the efficiency of our operations, but improve the safety of our local roads and strengthen the regional economy.

The Des Moines Area Transload Facility project is vital to the transportation and economy of the Greater Des Moines region with global reaching impacts. The project includes the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines. This facility will have access to three Class I railroads and one Class II railroad, and will provide a vital connection between Central Iowa and our coastal ports. Transloading opportunities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility. The facility would also spur additional development from businesses that desire to export and import goods via rail.

Based on the factors listed above, American Ground Screw, Inc. offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application. Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions about our support for the initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirk Martin".

Kirk Martin, GM

[kirk@hkmanufacturing.com](mailto:kirk@hkmanufacturing.com)

(515) 867-8444

American Ground Screw, Inc.

202 4<sup>th</sup> St., West Des Moines, IA 50265

(515) 288-9800

[www.americangroundscrew.com](http://www.americangroundscrew.com)



JULY 12, 2018

Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Des Moines Area Metro Planning Organization Build Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

H&K Smart Fence, Inc. is a national importer and distributor of metal and plastic traditional and electric fence and animal control products. When looking for locations for our company, our owners selected Des Moines given its central location and the ease of developing strong, local business partnerships that would benefit both our development as offer us the opportunity to contribute to the development of the economy of the community as a whole. We write in strong support of the proposed Des Moines Transload Facility because we see it as directly benefiting our business operations as well as the development of those partnerships that have made the Greater Des Moines area such an excellent location for us.

Currently our company must rely on container deliveries by truck from Kansas City for our imported inventory. This adds on average 2-3 days time, and significant challenges in scheduling delivery given new regulations in the trucking industry. Having direct delivery of containers via rail in to Des Moines will not only greatly improve the efficiency of our operations, but improve the safety of our local roads and strengthen the regional economy.

The Des Moines Area Transload Facility project is vital to the transportation and economy of the Greater Des Moines region with global reaching impacts. The project includes the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines. This facility will have access to three Class I railroads and one Class II railroad, and will provide a vital connection between Central Iowa and our coastal ports. Transloading opportunities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility. The facility would also spur additional development from businesses that desire to export and import goods via rail.

Based on the factors listed above, H&K Smart Fence, Inc. offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application. Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions about our support for the initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirk Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kirk" and last name "Martin" clearly distinguishable.

Kirk Martin, GM  
[kirk@hkmanufacturing.com](mailto:kirk@hkmanufacturing.com)  
(515) 867-8444

**(515) 288-9800**

H&K Smart Fence, Inc.  
202 4<sup>th</sup> St., West Des Moines, IA 50265

[www.hksmartfence.com](http://www.hksmartfence.com)



1435 Ohio Street  
Des Moines, IA 50314  
P: 515.243.0156  
F: 515.243.0165  
neumannbros.com

November 23, 2016

Anthony Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT – THE CITY OF DES MOINES FASTLANE  
GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Des Moines Area Rail Port project is vital to the transportation and economy of the Greater Des Moines region with global reaching impacts. The project includes the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines. This facility will have access to three Class I railroads and one Class II railroad, and will provide a vital connection between Central Iowa and our coastal ports. Transloading opportunities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility. The facility would also spur additional development from businesses that desire to export and import goods via rail.

The development of the Des Moines Rail Port aligns closely with the goals and performance measures of *Mobilizing Tomorrow*, the regions long-range transportation plan. Specifically, goals that relate to reducing congestion on roadways, and providing alternative freight transportation options to shippers in the region. The Des Moines Rail port supports these goals by improving the safety of our roads and strengthening the regional economy.

Based on the factors listed above, the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization offers this letter of support for the City of Des Moines application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Ted Brackett  
VP, Business Development

**The Standard of Excellence**

Operations  
701 First Street  
Clayton, Iowa 52049  
(563) 964-2860  
(563) 964-2616 fax



Accounting  
701 King Street - Box 670  
Fayette, Iowa 52142  
(563) 425-3568  
fax (563) 425-4090

March 22, 2018

To whom it may concern;

Pattison Sand Company is enthusiastic about the prospect of your Des Moines Transload facility and we are very willing to sign a Letter of Intent based upon what we know to date. Our intent is to have you serve over 1,000 rail cars of high quality crushed stone products annually. We produce Class E rip rap, Class 3i concrete stone, type A asphalt stone, Class A road stone, and numerous other products meeting the highest Iowa DOT specifications.

Pattison Sand Company is a second generation family business with a large mining operation at Clayton, Iowa employing over 300 people working 24/7, year around. In addition to high quality rock we also mine silica sand and frac sand for the oil and gas industry. We ship year round by rail with the company's 1,900 rail cars. We operate our own transload operations in Everly, Cylinder, Centerville, Atlantic, and Wiota, Iowa plus Winnebago, Minnesota. We are in the process of adding 4 to 7 more transload facilities in Iowa this year for our crushed stone sales. Even though these small town sites at least two of them will handle over 1,000 rail car loads this year. Last year we tested the Des Moines market by bringing in over 600 rail cars of crushed stone to a West Des Moines site and most all was promptly sold.

We understand the transload business for crushed stone and can assure you of over 1,000 rail cars annually for the Des Moines market at the agreed upon costs of over \$ 400 per car. This volume is a market penetration of less than 1-1/2% of the total volume for crushed stone for Metro Des Moines. Pattison has an experienced and aggressive sales force covering this market territory. We continue to grow sales each year.

We are anxious to see you start construction of the Des Moines Transload facility so we can sell crushed stone in the Metro Des Moines area as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Kyle Pattison



JULY 12, 2018

Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Support for Des Moines Area Metro Planning Organization Build Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

H&K Pet Supply, Inc. is a national importer and distributor of metal and plastic traditional animal containment and training products. When looking for locations for our company, our owners selected Des Moines given its central location and the ease of developing strong, local business partnerships that would benefit both our development as offer us the opportunity to contribute to the development of the economy of the community as a whole. We write in strong support of the proposed Des Moines Transload Facility because we see it as directly benefiting our business operations as well as the development of those partnerships that have made the Greater Des Moines area such an excellent location for us.

Currently our company must rely on container deliveries by truck from Kansas City for our imported inventory. This adds on average 2-3 days time, and significant challenges in scheduling delivery given new regulations in the trucking industry. Having direct delivery of containers via rail in to Des Moines will not only greatly improve the efficiency of our operations, but improve the safety of our local roads and strengthen the regional economy.

The Des Moines Area Transload Facility project is vital to the transportation and economy of the Greater Des Moines region with global reaching impacts. The project includes the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines. This facility will have access to three Class I railroads and one Class II railroad, and will provide a vital connection between Central Iowa and our coastal ports. Transloading opportunities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility. The facility would also spur additional development from businesses that desire to export and import goods via rail.

Based on the factors listed above, H&K Smart Fence, Inc. offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization application for funding and encourages your favorable consideration of this application. Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions about our support for the initiative.

Sincerely,

Kirk Martin, GM  
[kirk@hkmanufacturing.com](mailto:kirk@hkmanufacturing.com)  
(515) 867-8444

**(515) 288-9800**

H&K Pet Supply, Inc.  
202 4<sup>th</sup> St., West Des Moines, IA 50265

[www.petsupplymfg.com](http://www.petsupplymfg.com)



Colby R. Tanner  
Assistant Vice President  
Economic Development

BNSF Railway Company  
2650 Lou Menk Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Fort Worth, TX 76131-2830

817-867-6336 Office  
colby.tanner@bnsf.com

October 12, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

BNSF Railway offers this letter of support for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization project for funding a transloading facility in Des Moines, Iowa.

This project would fund the construction of a transloading facility on the east side of the City of Des Moines with access to three Class I railroads, which includes BNSF, and one Class II railroad. Transloading facilities are currently lacking in Central Iowa and major businesses within the region have indicated that they would utilize such a facility, spur additional development, and is a benefit to the Des Moines region.

The development of the Des Moines Transload Facility aligns closely with the goals and performance measures of "Mobilizing Tomorrow," the region's long-range transportation plan, by reducing congestion on roadways, providing alternative freight transportation options to shippers in the region, and strengthening the regional economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Colby Tanner", is written over a circular blue stamp. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the stamp.

Colby Tanner  
AVP Economic Development