



January 3, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my interest, support, and concern regarding the progression of the "Heartland Parkway" said to connect the Bluegrass Parkway to the Louie B. Nunn Parkway in Central Kentucky. As an automotive manufacturing general manager, the fact that the state of Kentucky is looking into this is very encouraging to say the least.

As a native of Campbellsville Kentucky, I personally witnessed first hand what the impact of industry and infrastructure makes when nearly 3500 jobs were lost due to the closing of Fruit of the Loom. Since then, our area has slowly tried to fill that void but has taken an economic blow to the head by that and other industries lost to the global economy.

In our new competitive GLOBAL markets, having the ability to get things from "A to B" is the backbone for growth. Elizabethtown and Bardstown are prime examples of this near our area. Their growth is primarily due to its roadways which we do not have. Washington, Marion, Taylor and Adair counties would be placed on the same fast track of growth if the "Heartland Parkway" is given the full economic support it needs to move forward.

I fully support the implementation of the "Heartland Parkway". This project cannot happen quickly enough for INFAC North America to make us more appealing in Campbellsville to other automotive manufacturers North and South, as well as, Toyota and Ford in Kentucky. I feel it will make this area more interesting to suppliers who support our business and spawn additional industry all along this corridor.

The people of the Heartland possess the "American Spirit" with a work ethic that has been handed down thru generations. They have driven too far for too long to find work, shopping, and specialized health care. We need the "Heartland Parkway" to attract new companies and retain the existing industry (including mine) that can put these people to work. I sincerely hope that bi-partisan branches of government in Kentucky will view and understand this as I do and allow for this project commence at the top of the priority list or agendas to re-vitalize the true *Heart of Kentucky*.

Sincerely,

Brian Bland

General Manager



Enclosure: