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NATURAL RESOURCES, GREAT LAKES,
LAND USE, AND ENVIRONMENT

January 19, 2006

Ms. Gloria J. Jeff
Director
Michigan Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Director Jeff:

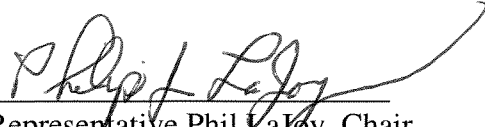
This letter reaches you to request a status report on the bi-national process to determine another international border crossing. Interested parties have notified the Legislature that the process has essentially come to a halt with the options for a border crossing being narrowed to a singular option without explanation of how this decision was reached. No firsthand information on the status of the project has been shared with the Legislature and inquiries have been fruitless. Since approximately \$16.7 million in taxpayer dollars were spent to study additional border crossing options; we feel that an accounting and explanation of the process and expense of these funds is due.

It is our understanding that multiple projects with independent funding and support have been discarded as options without appropriate explanation or adequate discussion. While we do not take the position of endorsing any particular project, it is important for a full and public discussion of the reasons certain projects have been eliminated as viable options.

We have come to the determination that without a full briefing from MDOT on the status of the Detroit River International Crossing study and the decision making process, the Legislature will exercise its right to hold hearings to investigate. This is not an action that we take lightly or come to easily, therefore we respectfully request a complete update on the status of the process and findings with respect to the international border crossing study.

Please contact the office of Representative Phil LaJoy within the next 30 days to schedule a meeting for a full briefing on the status of the project. Beyond that time, the Legislature will undertake actions to schedule hearings on the subject. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in this matter.

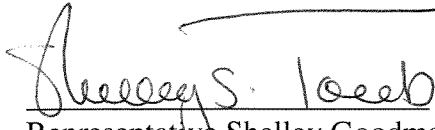
Sincerely,



Representative Phil LaJoy, Chair
House Transportation Committee



Senator Jud Gilbert, Chair
Senate Transportation Committee



Representative Shelley Goodman Taub, Chair
House Appropriations Transportation
Subcommittee



Senator Shirley Johnson, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee