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September 3, 2026

Mr. Robert Spurlock
Executive Director
TransAmerica Corridor Authority

Dear Mr. Spurlock,

I am writing to express my support for continuing and extending the future Interstate 66, building upon its congressional designation as a High Priority Corridor 3 under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-59).

The proposed Southern Illinois segment would potentially run through Alexander, Union, Pulaski, Johnson, and Massac counties, including the City of Metropolis, which serves as a logical eastern terminus for the corridor. The newly established I-66 Work Group has identified a route from I-24 at Metropolis to I-55 at Cape Girardeau, continuing along US-60 from Van Buren to Springfield, Missouri. The Illinois Department of Transportation District 9 has also confirmed its support in pursuing I-66 designation for this segment, demonstrating Illinois' readiness to move this effort forward.

Completing this east-west connection would provide a number of benefits for Southern Illinois, including strengthening freight mobility, supply-chain resilience, and economic competitiveness throughout the region. This connection will also improve access to the Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge, which is currently the only seismically resilient Mississippi River crossing between St. Louis, MO and Memphis, TN.

I look forward to working with state and federal partners to advance the continuation and extension of the future Interstate 66 and ensure that Southern Illinois is best positioned to benefit from this critical transportation corridor.

Sincerely,



Mike Bost
Member of Congress