14642 Nokay Lake Road Brainerd, MN 56401 August 12, 56401

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the Tiger II grant proposal for improvements for the Garrison, MN area; from Whitefish Creek Bridge in Kathio Township and north to the Harbor Inn.

These improvements will increase the livability and physical well being of the residents of Garrison and surrounding areas by encouraging a healthier lifestyle through innovative alternative transportation avenues by means of a multi-modal path while preserving the natural beauty and health of the lakes area by the use of natural erosion control methods improving and maintaining water quality and shoreline preservation. As an employee at the Garrison Information Booth, I have countless requests for biking or walking trails in or near Garrison. The proposed improvements would provide residents with the opportunity to bike or walk in a safe area verses the high traffic area of State Highway 169 option.

The collaborative efforts of the service organizations, the City of Garrison, the Garrison Commercial and MNDot are making positive steps in the preservation of our history and "up north" culture by creating alternative transportation modals, energy efficient lighting, shore line preservation, historical site preservation, improved safety features while maintaining the beauty and health of the environment for Garrison residents.

This project will have a very positive economic impact upon the Garrison area by stimulating economic growth and job creation in area that is dependent upon its "healthy American lifestyle and beauty" to maintain economic sustainability. This project will help sustain our healthy, viable environment through partnerships and collaborations and the creation of new opportunities. A portion of the Garrison Commercial Club's mission statement is as follows: "support a healthy, positive, viable community environment". This project is a perfect fit for the vision and direction that residents have for their community.

Sincerely,

Katherine Stevens