



March 18, 2019

Board Members of the
Bi-State Regional Commission Transportation Policy Committee
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201

Dear Members of the Bi-State Regional Commission Transportation Policy Committee,

On behalf of the 20,000 union members represented by the Great River Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO in Illinois and Iowa, I request that the Bi-State Regional Commission opt-out of the Federal Swap Program being implemented by the Iowa DOT.

By not voting, our communities are automatic participants of this program. Our organization is requesting that you support local communities by keeping federal regulations in place when public infrastructure projects are being completed. The Buy American Act requires contractors to bid on infrastructure projects using American-Made Steel. This provision keeps jobs in our communities supporting our local economies and local families. The Davis-Bacon Act, requires contractors to pay prevailing wage, keeping a fair and level playing field for our local employees.

The ramifications of this Federal Road Swap Program would stunt the growth of our local economies and hurt working families in both Illinois and Iowa. As a labor organization, we strive to improve the lives of working families and increase their power by bringing fairness and dignity back into the workplace, by securing social equity, and sustaining our communities.

The Great River Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO requests that you support your local communities by upholding these values and voting to opt-out of the Federal Road Swap Program. We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Brad Greve, President
Great River Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO