Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

February 6, 2003

Steven A. Perry, General Services Administrator
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 205054

Dear Administrator Perry:

Since September 11, 2001, significant progress has been made at border crossings across the Northern Border. These resources have been crucial in ensuring that our twin goals of seamless and secure trade across our Northern Border are met. While new staff has arrived, it is important for GSA to focus upon the necessary infrastructure and technology improvements that will aid our border personnel in performing their duties.

In our own State of Michigan, the Ambassador Bridge, the Detroit Windsor Tunnel, the Blue Water Bridge, and the International Bridge have specific and immediate infrastructure and technology needs required to handle the large increases in federal staffing. In particular, at the Detroit Windsor Tunnel and the Ambassador Bridge there is inadequate parking for federal inspection agents and agency customers, inadequate primary and secondary inspection space, and the need for facility renovations and building construction are issues that need to be addressed expeditiously.

It has also been brought to our attention that a number of projects have been requested and bid out for contract but remain unfunded or delayed by GSA. These delays are causing great inefficiencies and it is important they are resolved promptly. These improvements will ensure that our border personnel are performing their duties as efficiently and effectively as possible.

We urge GSA to expedite border enhancements and improvements in safety, security, and efficiency. This includes giving prompt attention to requests to improve infrastructure and upgrade technology. Michigan's and the nation's security and economic well being are at stake.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Joe Knollenberg
Member of Congress

John Dingell
Member of Congress

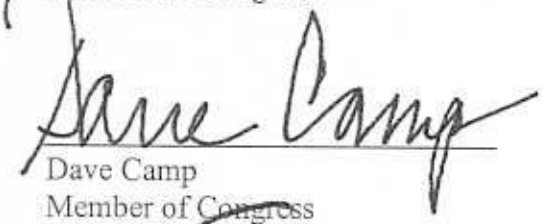
Carl Levin
U.S. Senator



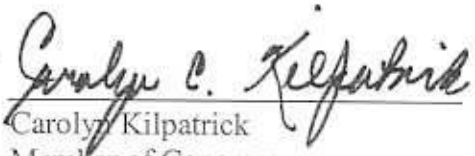
Fred Upton
Member of Congress



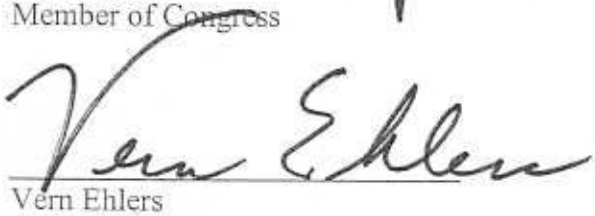
Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senator



Dave Camp
Member of Congress



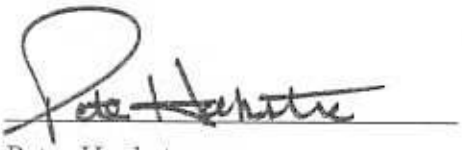
Carolyn Kilpatrick
Member of Congress



Vern Ehlers
Member of Congress



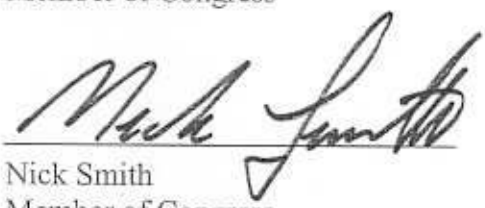
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



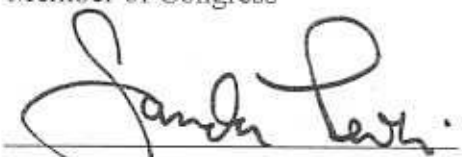
Peter Hoekstra
Member of Congress



Dale Kildee
Member of Congress



Nick Smith
Member of Congress



Sander Levin
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Bart Stupak
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress



Candice Miller
Member of Congress