

COUNTY OF OAKLAND
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

MICHAEL J. BOUCHARD



December 18, 2020

Dear Government and Business Officials:

It is my distinct pleasure to express my continued support for the Transportation Improvement Association (TIA), and I am respectfully requesting your community or business to either remain a member or become one.

TIA is an extremely valuable asset as a non-profit transportation safety agency which has successfully facilitated a reduction of injuries and fatalities. In 1967, Oakland County's fatality rate was higher than the rate for both Michigan and the nation. In 2018, Oakland County's fatality rate was less than half of Michigan's and the national rate. It is our coordination with TIA that Oakland County's roads are among the safest in the world for an area of its size and population. Our success here was due to corporate and government leaders coming together in 1967 to form TIA.

Since its inception, TIA has become one of the most prestigious transportation safety agencies in the world. The data collection and analysis provided by TIA has allowed many government agencies to identify safety problems and implemented solutions. In addition, TIA's traffic engineering services, public education initiatives, training opportunities for professionals, and coordination of law enforcement grants have also been beneficial.

I understand budget constraints are a concern, however public safety is an essential service which must remain a top priority to ensure our loved ones return home safely.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank TIA, which works tirelessly throughout the year to reduce injuries and fatalities and make our community a safe place to live, work, and conduct business. If you are already a member of TIA, I want to thank you for making our transportation network safer. I offer my sincere best wishes to TIA for continued success. I encourage all communities and businesses to maintain their TIA membership or consider joining.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact TIA's Chief Executive Officer, Jim Santilli, at (248) 334-4971.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Bouchard". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Michael J. Bouchard, C.H.P.P.
Oakland County Sheriff
President Emeritus, Major County Sheriffs of America
National Sheriff of the Year 2016



QUALITY LIFE THROUGH GOOD ROADS:
ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY
"WE CARE."

Board of Road Commissioners

Ronald J. Fowkes
Commissioner

Gregory C. Jamian
Commissioner

Andrea LaLonde
Commissioner

Dennis G. Kolar, P.E.
Managing Director

Gary Piotrowicz, P.E., P.T.O.E.
Deputy Managing Director
County Highway Engineer

31001 Lahser Road
Beverly Hills, MI
48025

248-645-2000

FAX
248-645-1349

www.rcocweb.org

June 4, 2020

Dear Oakland County Local Government Officials:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Transportation Improvement Association (TIA). As you are probably aware, TIA, the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) and the majority of Oakland County communities and law enforcement agencies have long been partners in the effort to make our roads as safe as possible. Thanks to this partnership, we have made great strides in road safety in the county. In fact, we have gone from a county that had a traffic-crash fatality rate worse than either the state as a whole or the nation (in 1967) to a county that today has a traffic-crash fatality rate that is approximately half the statewide and national rates.

I firmly believe that we would not have achieved this accomplishment were it not for TIA. Since 1967, TIA has been one of the premier transportation-safety agencies in the world in terms of collecting and analyzing crash data. Without that data and analysis, none of us would have been able to address safety concerns to the degree that we have.

I also firmly believe that this data collection and analysis capability is critical for the communities in Oakland County, both in terms of roads and law enforcement. Simply put, without the level of data and analysis provided by TIA, we would all simply be guessing about where to best invest our resources. TIA's licensed traffic engineers and success in obtaining law-enforcement grants for Oakland County communities have also played key roles in this effort.

If you are already a member of TIA, I encourage to remain so. If you are not currently a member, I encourage you to become one. I realize that funding is tight for all of us, and we are all watching every penny. However, I hope you'll agree with me that safety-related expenses should always be among our top priorities. The shared services TIA provides help to save lives, prevent injuries and improve mobility. I can't imagine anything more critical than that.

If you would like to discuss why I am so enthusiastically supportive of TIA, please feel free to call me at 248-645-2000.

Sincerely,

Dennis G. Kolar, PE
Managing Director