



April 8, 2016

Mayor Jim Gray
Office of the Mayor
200 E. Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Mayor Gray,

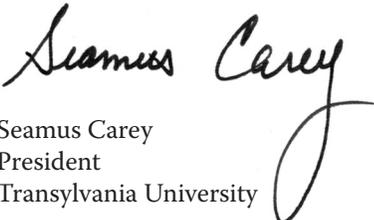
When I was considering the position of president of Transylvania University in 2014, one of the key attractions to me was that it was an elite liberal arts university situated in the heart of a thriving city. Too many colleges are isolated from the communities that surround them, but Transylvania – the nation’s 16th oldest college with 24 major buildings on 60 acres – is very much connected to Lexington. And we have a stake in making downtown Lexington as inviting, accessible, and safe as possible.

I know it’s no surprise to you that students considering Transylvania often ask about “quality of place” factors – including a lot of questions about cycling opportunities. They know that Transylvania has an excellent academic reputation, but they want to make sure they can also get around safely, go on recreational rides in the region, and find fun things to do around the city.

We promote both our University and our city as a bike-friendly place. “Bikes are Welcome” – that’s a key page on our website, and a key message we have for students. We were one of only 127 colleges named a Bike Friendly University by the League of American Bicyclists. We will lend bikes to students who need them. We have a facility for fixing bikes when repairs inevitably are needed. Bikes are part of our sustainability plan. We have particularly touted the Legacy Trail as a worthy recreational opportunity for our students and have shared the city’s plan to better connect interesting trails, to create a truly interconnected biking city. The Town Branch Commons Corridor project is the spine of that plan – and it will sustain and enhance the city’s biking reputation in a valuable and vital way. While we are justifiably proud of the great biking opportunities in and around Lexington, that doesn’t mean as much if you can’t safely ride through the heart of the city. Our students deserve and expect that safety.

Transylvania University was proud of building a \$10 million Athletic Center in Lexington in 2014 – part of a period of record development in downtown Lexington. We would like to see an enhanced multi-modal downtown transportation grid that will continue to improve the University’s connection with the greater community.

Sincerely,


Seamus Carey
President
Transylvania University

Office of the President

300 North Broadway | Lexington, KY 40508 | (859) 281-3512 | transy.edu

FOUNDED 1780