



21st
CENTURY
PARKS

Bringing nature into neighborhoods

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 9, 2016

The Honorable Jim Gray, Mayor
Lexington Fayette Urban County Government
Office of the Mayor
200 East Main ST
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Mayor Gray,

Great cities have, and preserve, great parks. The 21st century will be an urban century and those cities that build and sustain great park systems will themselves be sustainable and provide a firm foundation for healthy, diverse, economically viable communities. Part of 21st Century Parks' mission is to serve as stewards entrusted to create and preserve unexcelled parklands that reflect the needs and values of our whole community. Lexington's Town Branch Commons Corridor (TBCC) will activate underutilized parks and transform them into an unprecedented linear park system.

Having led in the construction of a similar park and multimodal system in Louisville, our organization has found that TBCC will do many things for a city. It will create and sustain community, fuel economic development, support the environment, and help to create a healthy urban core.

TBCC will have a transformative impact on the entire community. Creating a multimodal and linear park corridor through the heart of the city will provide a safe alternative transportation path and provide enjoyment to the city's entire population. Furthermore, this project is an environmentally responsible and sustainable project, helping restore more ecological balance to the urban landscape with increased tree canopy, greenspace, rain gardens, and storm water collection facilities.

Simply put, TBCC is the type of project 21st Century Parks believes in, and we strongly support federal TIGER grant funding for it.

Sincerely,

Daniel H. Jones, M.F., Ph.D.
Chairman and CEO