



April 8, 2016

The Honorable Jim Gray, Mayor  
Office of the Mayor  
200 E. Main St.  
Lexington, KY 40507

Office of the President  
101 Main Building  
Lexington, KY 40506-0032  
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Dear Mayor Gray,

The University of Kentucky supports the Town Branch Commons Corridor project for the benefit of our campus, community, and Commonwealth. As the Kentucky's flagship institution, we are called to serve the state. At the same time, Lexington is our home. Just as our histories are linked, so, too, is the future of our shared community.

Specifically, the project will help in our recruitment of quality students, expert faculty, and skilled staff; as well as improve the public health and welfare of our campus and city.

First, Lexington's attractions and assets play a strong role in student, faculty, and staff recruitment and retention. We tout the beauty, history, and amenities of Lexington as an integral part of the UK experience, and we encourage the UK family to integrate and serve the Lexington community.

As we continue to redevelop the portion of campus closest to the downtown corridor, we recognize that a strong relationship with the city is important. The planning process for our 2013 Campus Master Plan included support of and connections to the proposed Town Branch Commons.

Second, the project complements our health initiatives. Increased bike and pedestrian safety, connectedness, and convenience throughout the city and the region will help our students and citizens make fitness part of their daily routine. Our Transportation Master Plan emphasizes improvements to bike and pedestrian connectivity on campus and with the surrounding community.

The Town Branch Commons Corridor is an ambitious endeavor to improve and connect our city and region. It has the potential to enhance the well-being of those we serve, build community in Lexington, support the University, promote healthier lifestyles, and celebrate our city's history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eli Capilouto". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Eli Capilouto  
President