

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

June 2, 2015

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The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government TIGER Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please accept this letter of support for the 2015 TIGER Grant Application submitted by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government for the Town Branch Commons Corridor, a visionary, multi-modal improvement project.

This project connects the urban core of Lexington, the state's second largest city, to the surrounding neighborhoods and pastoral farm fields of the Bluegrass. The Commonwealth of Kentucky, City of Lexington, schools and philanthropic groups have invested millions of dollars in roads, trails, parks, bike lanes and sidewalks that will be joined together as never before.

This project offers wide-ranging, transformative improvements to citizens and community including:

- Safety From designated bike lanes and accessible sidewalks to traffic-calming street improvements and lighting enhancements, the project is designed with safety in mind.
- Public Health With some of the nation's highest rates for obesity and chronic health problems, our citizens will benefit from new ways to commute, recreate and exercise.
- Mobility Better connections to neighborhoods, parks and countryside will help bring people together and strengthen our region.
- Equality The improved pedestrian access to the Lexington Transit Center, and the
  bus stop improvements mean Lexington families, including our poorest neighbors,
  have reliable, safe transportation to schools, jobs, health care and cultural
  opportunities.
- **Quality of Life** This project builds on the many public and private investments that are revitalizing Lexington and making it a destination place.
- **Economic Competitiveness** Businesses and the young talent choose communities based on the kinds of amenities that Town Branch Commons will create.



• **Environmental Sustainability** – Reclaiming the historic stream that flows through our region is a central component, part of on-going efforts to protect the Commonwealth's natural resources.

Thank you for your consideration of this TIGER grant request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Secretary Michael Hancock of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet at 502-564-5102.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Beshear