

Mentelle Neighborhood Association

www.mentelle.org

April 18, 2016

The Honorable Jim Gray, Mayor
Lexington Fayette Urban County Government
Office of the Mayor
200 E. Main Street Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Mayor Gray,

On behalf of The Mentelle Neighborhood Association, I am writing to support the Town Branch Commons Corridor project, an investment in improved transportation and mobility for Lexington and the surrounding Bluegrass Region.

The Mentelle Neighborhood has over 300 households in downtown Lexington and near Town Branch Commons Corridor. Our mission is to improve our neighborhood through our community. This includes hosting informational talks of community and general interest, connecting residents with LFUCG officials and services, and advocating for those city amenities that will benefit our neighborhood. Town Branch Commons Corridor is such an amenity.

The streets of our neighborhood were laid in the early 20th century. During that era, walking, cycling, and public transportation were common and convenient modes of daily transportation for Lexingtonians. Unfortunately, as automobiles have proliferated, these options have become less safe and desirable. However, Town Branch Commons Corridor holds tremendous transformative potential for reconnecting neighborhoods to each other and downtown as they were before cars.


Town Branch Commons Corridor creates a multimodal corridor throughout the heart of the city, and will greatly improve the ability of our neighborhood's residents to safely reach businesses, amenities, and natural features of Central Kentucky without an automobile. Furthermore, this project will make our community safer for motorists, in addition to pedestrians and cyclists. The planned improvements to our existing transportation infrastructure will eliminate many of the barriers and hurdles to mobility, and truly transform our transit center into a multi-modal epicenter downtown.

Town Branch Commons Corridor is also an environmentally responsible and sustainable project. The improvements will better protect the natural streams that flow through our region and restore more ecological balance to the urban core with trees, shrubs, rain gardens, and storm water facilities.

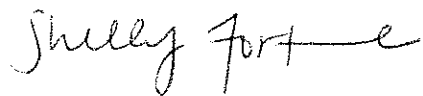
Maintaining an attractive natural environment in the city and broader region will further support outdoor recreation and active lifestyles.

Town Branch Commons Corridor is essential for supporting the desire of many residents in our recently reinvigorated neighborhood to regularly engage in active transportation for work, leisure, and commerce. Therefore, Mentelle Neighborhood Association enthusiastically supports federal TIGER Grant funding for Town Branch Commons Corridor.

Sincerely,

 Linda Wiley, vice-president

Mentelle Neighborhood Board Members

 Shelly Fort - president