



April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As Mayor of the City of Little Rock (CLR), I write to you today to express the City's enthusiastic support for the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's (UALR's) 2016 TIGER grant application for the University Avenue Revitalization Project. The CLR is and has been a constant partner alongside UALR and neighborhood leaders in a range of activities and programs to enhance the transportation modalities and the area of the city known as the University District. The award of a TIGER grant will provide the critical funds needed to improve the transportation choices and provide better connectivity including access in/to the District's core business zone. In short, it will be a complete streets retrofit of the University Corridor. We believe that the transformation of this roadway, made possible from TIGER funds, will be the catalyst for the economic development of this area. Increasing the University District's viability as a complete streets project provides a ladder of opportunity and benefits for a population that is underserved in Little Rock in its current access to services and businesses.

Through the use of various funds, the City of Little Rock pledges to provide \$2.1 million as match for the TIGER grant funds. This source of city funds is used for projects across the city that provide the potential for significant redevelopment of infrastructure; the University Avenue Revitalization Project falls squarely into this category. In addition to the commitment of funds toward the project, the City pledges to work with UALR if the TIGER funds are awarded to implement the project in line with the City of Little Rock's engineering protocol and policies, including our recently adopted Complete Streets ordinance.

We are excited about the potential that this project holds for a key area of Little Rock and appreciate it being given very serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Stodola
Mayor