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April 20, 2016

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

RE: FY 2016, Letter of Support for the City of Wichita's U.S. Department of Transportation's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write to add my voice to the chorus of support for The City of Wichita's **TIGER** application, **Multi-Modal Transportation Connections for the Wichita State University Innovation Campus. The project** furthers the strategic vision of WSU and the regional advanced manufacturing strategy. WSU is a key partner in the Wichita's community and the proposed TIGER project demonstrates a strong, ongoing collaboration among a broad range of stakeholders.

The innovative project will increase connectivity to employment, education, and services; support workforce development by increasing apprenticeship and experiential learning opportunities; and contribute to community revitalization. This project's transit component will connect the metropolitan area's low- and moderate-income and historically underutilized business zone neighborhoods, university, K-12 schools, downtown business district, and hospital district.

WSU's student population is growing and the campus will nearly double in size over the next several years. The Innovation Campus will attract cutting-edge businesses to the Wichita area creating job growth and with that growth, additional transportation related needs. Transit, improved streets and signaling technology, and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure will play a key role in providing access to WSU

Completion of this project will enhance the community's economic vitality, from revenue and job growth to expansion of educational opportunities for the disadvantaged. It is a strategic long-term investment in our community which will pay dividends for generations to come. I appreciate your careful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Debbie Gann

Debbie Gann
VP, Corporate Communication & Administration