



Dwight D. Eisenhower State Office Building
700 S.W. Harrison Street
Topeka, KS 66603-3745
Mike King, Secretary

Phone: 785-296-3461
Fax: 785-368-7415
Hearing Impaired - 711
publicinfo@ksdot.org
<http://www.ksdot.org>

Sam Brownback, Governor

April 15, 2016

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

RE: Letter of Support for the City of Wichita's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application and related
Wichita State University Innovation Campus Project

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing you to express my support of the City of Wichita's application for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Funds for the Wichita State University Innovation Campus Multi-Modal TIGER project. This project will create a one of a kind state of the art research and innovation campus at Wichita State University that will not only meet, but exceed the goals of the TIGER Grant Program and would stimulate and sustain both short and long term economic growth in Kansas and in the region.

The City of Wichita's TIGER grant proposal, if awarded TIGER funding, will improve and expand access to the Wichita State University Innovation Campus Project through enhancements to streets, transit, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. The City of Wichita's Grant application aligns TIGER Program goals with the South Kansas Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) regional strategy. That strategy prioritizes access to advanced manufacturing research and innovation investments as primary job generators for the region. The Wichita State University Innovation Campus Project is designed to implement the strategy. The City of Wichita's multi-modal transportation proposal contained in its TIGER Grant Application, in turn, supports the Wichita State University's Innovation Campus Project.

The City of Wichita's Multi-Modal Transportation Connections for the Wichita State University Innovation Campus Project will provide a safe, connected and accessible transportation system for the movement of people and goods needed for the Wichita State University Innovation Campus Project. The Project will provide a strong foundation for the commercialization of ideas and the creation and expansion of firms and jobs via proximity and collaboration. Together these projects are a vehicle for revenue growth as well as the more efficient use of existing and strategically planned infrastructure. The Wichita State University Innovation Campus Project will provide expanded employment and educational opportunities for disadvantaged populations in the surrounding low and moderate income and Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone neighborhoods.

For these reasons, we strongly encourage you to favorably consider the City of Wichita's application for TIGER Discretionary Grant funds for the Wichita State Innovation Campus Project. Thank you for the opportunity to express our support of this project.

Sincerely,

Mike King
Secretary of Transportation
Director Kansas Turnpike Authority