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

January 9, 2017

Re: Letter of Support for Florida International University’s Accessible Transportation Research Initiative (ATTRI) Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As Members of Congress representing South Florida, we write to bring to your attention the application of Florida International University (FIU) for a grant through the Department of Transportation’s Accessible Transportation Technology Research Initiative (ATTRI). The proposal, titled the “TerraFly Mobility Concierge,” is a pre-trip visualization program designed to help users plan their travel more effectively.

This application would provide people with cognitive disabilities, adults with limited technology experience, individuals with poor vision or hearing, and those living with mobility impairments with a personalized directional guide based on their individual needs. With videos of proposed routes and descriptions of landmarks to simplify travel, TerraFly would allow users to utilize different accessibility options by creating scenarios based on the user’s specifications.

The proposal builds on the development of the Informed Traveler Program & Applications (ITPA) software funded by the Fiscal Year 2013 TIGER Discretionary Grant for the University City Prosperity Project. With partners at the National Science Foundation, this advanced traffic management package is being developed by FIU’s High Performance Database Research Center (HPDRC). TerraFly would enhance the overall goal of providing users and service providers the opportunity to manage transit more effectively.

Again, we appreciate your full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable law and regulations, of Florida International University’s Accessible Transportation Technology Research Initiative (ATTRI). Please do not hesitate to contact Kaitlyn Lane in my D.C. office at (202) 225-7931 should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress

Frederica Wilson  
Member of Congress

Carlos Curbelo  
Member of Congress