March 19, 2012

TheHonorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Florida International University TIGER IV Discretionary
Grant Application for the University City Prosperity Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) is pleased to provide this letter in support of the University City Prosperity Project. This project is being submitted by Florida International University (FIU) under the FY 2012 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER IV) Grant Program.

The University City Prosperity Project is a partnership between the City of Sweetwater, Florida and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority. Included is the implementation of the SR-836 Express Enhanced Bus Service Project, an Advanced Transit Multimodal Station on the FIU campus; a high tech predictive Sustainable Informed Traveler Program (SITP) of national significance; and innovative transportation improvements to the City of Sweetwater including pedestrian-oriented and multimodal improvements.

Of particular importance to the Aviation Department is FIU’s planned advanced SITP development which will provide a predictive electronic wayfinding system that optimizes each vehicle’s trip, directing automotive parking to smart garages, and supporting modal shifts at higher rates than currently experienced. The development of SITP technologies may through prototype deployments at FIU parking garages, help MDAD employ similar technologies to maximize revenue and improve customer satisfaction in its main public parking garages.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

José Abreu, P.E.
Director