March 16, 2012

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

Subject: FY2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for FIU UniversityCity Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write today to bring to your attention Miami-Dade Transit's joint application with the Florida Department of Transportation and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority on the SR 836 Express Enhanced Bus project and Miami-Dade County's grant application for the NW 27th Avenue Enhanced Bus project.

In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to also express the County's support for the Florida International University's (FIU) UniversityCity project.

FIU's FY2012 TIGER/UniversityCity Prosperity Project grant application includes an Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station (ATMS) located adjacent SR-90/US-41/SW 8th Street just west of the SW 109th Avenue intersection. This multimodal center is a key component that benefits all transportation partners.

The future growth and success of our Southeast Florida region depends on the safe and efficient movement of our traveling public. This new pedestrian-oriented and inter-institutional multimodal station represents a great opportunity to connect the westernmost part of Miami-Dade County with FIU and the newly constructed Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) at Miami-International Airport (MIA) via MDT's new SR 836 Express Enhanced Bus Service route.

MDT will continue to coordinate with FIU and others involved in these UniversityCity Prosperity Project so that the SR 836 Express Enhanced Bus Service and the Panther Express complement and do not compete with each other and together improve mass transit services to the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for these important projects.

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact me at (786) 489-5406 or email ylort@miamidade.gov.

Sincerely,

Ysela Llort
Director