Commitment and Support Letters for

March 19th, 2012

University City
PROSPERITY PROJECT
Advanced TOD and Informed Traveler Program
List of Commitment Letters

1. FIU – Sr. Vice President / CFO, Kenneth Jessell
2. Florida Department of Transportation, Harold Desdunes, District Director of Transportation Development – SW 107th Avenue
3. Florida Department of Transportation, Harold Desdunes, District Director of Transportation Development – UniversityCity SAMS
4. City of Sweetwater – Mayor Manuel Maroño
5. Miami-Dade Expressway Authority – Javier Rodriguez, Executive Director
6. RRAC University Apartments, LLC – Javier Fernandez, Associate of representative firm Akerman Senterfitt

Proposal Letters – Consultants & Vendor Quotes

1. Ken Stapleton & Associates – Ken Stapleton, President
2. Pirouette Software Consulting – Ouri Wolfson, President
3. Downtown FX, Inc. – Francis X. McAfee, President
4. Vehicle Design and Fabrication – George Brenyo, President
5. IBM Public Sector Industry – Emily Loos, IBM Client Executive

Senator Bill Nelson

Miami-Dade Congressional Delegation Letter

Support and Cooperation Letters

1. Miami-Dade Transit – Ysela Llort, Director
2. Miami-Dade Aviation Department – José Abreu, Director
3. South Florida Regional Partnership – Isabel Cosio Carballo, Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Chief Financial Officer

March 19, 2012

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

Dear Secretary LaHood,

The UniversityCity Prosperity Project is a high priority strategic initiative for Florida International University under our 2010-2015 strategic plan objective "Engage with the Community in Collaborative Problem Solving." We are committed to making the project a successful national and international model for advanced mobility, economic prosperity, sustainable communities, and innovative university-community partnerships.

Accordingly, FIU pledges to invest significant resources in combination with our various private and public project partners. Along with our entire Congressional Delegation, we urge the US Department of Transportation to invest with us in the form of a TIGER Discretionary Grant in the amount of $20,000,000.

FIU’s matching contributions to the UniversityCity Prosperity Project will be approximately $35.44 million and will include several elements:

- Design, construction and operation of a new “Smart Parking Garage” that will also house the Advanced Transit Multimodal Station (ATMS). The new “Smart Parking Garage” will facilitate timely delivery of transit customers as part of the Sustainable Informed Traveler Program (SITP), provide parking spaces for visitors of FIU who also use the ATMS, provide bicycle storage facilities, and host a number of vehicles for FIU’s car sharing service. Expected new parking garage costs are $34.54 million;
- Creation of “Smart Parking Garages” – $200,000 of TIGER funds will be used to retrofit the current Red Parking Garage. Following a successful implementation of the first “Smart Parking Garage” and establishment of sufficient revenue flow from reserved parking component of the “Smart Parking Garage,” FIU plans to outfit the four remaining parking structures on campus as “Smart Parking Garages.” Expected deployment of “Smart Parking” technologies in the four existing FIU parking garages would carry a total cost of $800,000 to be funded from incremental reserved parking fees;
- Sustainable UniversityCity Sub-Area Mobility Study (SAMS) at a cost of $408,000 in partnership with the City of Sweetwater (Sweetwater) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 6. FIU’s cost contribution to this effort will be $102,000. The Sustainable UniversityCity SAMS will identify strategies and conceptualize projects that can be undertaken that would improve mobility within UniversityCity (defined as the lands within Sweetwater, the FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus, the FIU Engineering Center, and the adjoining properties).
Further, FIU will identify how it might:

- Create and operate a Transit Rider orientation program for FIU students, faculty and staff to encourage a culture of transit use;
- Undertake annual project evaluations including surveys of students, staff, and Sweetwater residents to assess progress and provide information for operational adjustments;
- Create and operate a web site in conjunction with the UniversityCity Alliance to inform the public and FIU students about: i) UniversityCity Prosperity Project construction and activities; ii) local FIU and Sweetwater shuttle and community transit; iii) ITP subscriptions and services; iv) monthly transit passes; and, v) related events;
- Address additional maintenance costs for pedestrian-oriented public spaces on campus associated with all or part of the Parabola Bridge, the ATMS, and pedestrian linkages to other FIU facilities.

As a part of our Master Plan, we also expect to construct or facilitate construction of several buildings over the next ten years in close proximity to the new “Smart Parking Garage.” These structures will contribute significantly to increased transit ridership and will help to further establish safe and appealing pedestrian pathways, internal site trip capture, and job attraction and creation. We expect the total investment in buildings to exceed $200 million and suggest that while it does not constitute an additional match commitment, such future construction is the type of facility and related economic growth that is expected once the TIGER funding and related match funding is undertaken.

The UniversityCity Project will uniquely and innovatively help accomplish the goals of the TIGER grant program to enhance national economic competitiveness, provide immediate and long term job creation, enhance the surface transportation system, and create equitable and sustainable communities.

We look forward to having USDOT as our partner in the creation of a new international model of economic prosperity: UniversityCity.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Kenneth A. Jessell, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and CFO

Cc: Mayor Manuel Maroño
    Javier Rodríguez
    Gus Pego
    Mayor Carlos Gimenez
    Jose Abreu
    Ysella Llort
Kenneth A. Jessell, Ph.D.
CFO and Senior Vice President
Finance and Administration
Florida International University
11200 SW 8th Street, PC 523
Miami, FL 33199

Subject: Florida International University FY 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant
Submittal "University City Prosperity Project"

Dear Mr. Jessell:

The purpose of this letter is to inform Florida International University (University) that the Florida Department of Transportation (Department) has programmed improvements in the immediate vicinity of the University's Fiscal Year 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant submittal entitled "University City Prosperity Project." There are two projects programmed along SW 107 Avenue from SW 12 Street to Flagler Street in Miami-Dade County.

Project 412479-3-52-01 runs along SW 107 Avenue, from SW 12 Street to SW 4 Street. As part of this project, SW 107 Avenue from SW 8 Street to SW 12 Street will be widened to accommodate dual left turn lanes for the northbound traffic of SW 107 Avenue turning west to SW 8 Street. There will also be dual left turn lanes on SW 107 Avenue southbound turning east to SW 8 Street. In addition, a new bridge over the C-4 canal will be constructed. SW 107 Avenue will be widened from four lanes to six lanes from SW 8 Street to Flagler. Part of the widening, from SW 8 Street to SW 4 Street, is covered under project 412479-3-52-01, and is scheduled for construction in 2016. The other part of the corridor widening, from SW 4 Street to Flagler Street, will be constructed under project 412478-2-52-01 and is tentatively scheduled for construction in 2017. Please see attached for a graphical representation of this project.

With respect to US-41/Tamiami Trail at SW 109 Avenue, Department staff is currently evaluating this intersection to determine if there are any safety or operational deficiencies at this location. If any concerns are identified then the study will recommend countermeasures that can be implemented to address the concerns, as well as facilitate the movement of pedestrians between the University and Sweetwater. I will keep you advised of study results, and should the study identify project improvements, they will be implemented in coordination with the MPO, the University and the City of Sweetwater.
Mr. Kenneth A. Jessell  
March 14, 2012  
Page 2

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in this partnership to improve transportation linkages within the City of Sweetwater. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 305-470-5464 or Harold.desdunes@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Harold Desdunes, P.E.  
District Director of Transportation Development

c:

The Honorable Manuel L. Moroño, Mayor, City of Sweetwater  
Robert Herrada, City of Sweetwater  
Steve Sauls, Vice President Government Relations, FIU, PC 519  
Tom Gustafson, Director of Government and Transportation Policy, FIU, PC 525  
Gus Pego, P.E., District Secretary  
Debora Rivera, P.E., Director of Transportation Operations  
Aileen Boucle, AICP, Intermodal Systems Planning Administrator  
Phil Steinmiller, Planning Office  
Heidi Solaun-Dominguez, P.E., FDOT Project Manager

Attachment
Good afternoon,

As requested, please find the link below to the FDOT Five Year Work Program website. You can use the Search Item Number option for Projects 412479-2 and 412479-3 and then click on the highlighted project # to see funds programmed by fiscal year.

http://www2.dot.state.fl.us/fmsupportapps/workprogram/WorkProgram.aspx

Please let us know if you need additional information or have any questions.

Thanks.

Margaret Higgins
Office of the District Secretary
District 6
1000 NW 111 Avenue
2nd Floor, Lakeside
Miami, FL 33172
305-470-5197 Office
305-470-5189 Fax
margaret.higgins@dot.state.fl.us

Florida Department Of Transportation
Office of Work Program and Budget
Lisa Saliba - Director

Five Year Work Program

• 2012-2017 - Tentative
• 2006-2011 - Tentative
Very important information from FDOT Secretary concerning this link.

Major Projects Information.

This web site should not be used for detail analysis of funding information. Please contact the Office of Work Program and Budget.

Downloadable version of the Department's Five Year Work Program

Note: Information on this web page may, at times, be temporarily unavailable due to scheduled maintenance. If you receive an error message, please try again at a later point in time. If you continue to experience problems, please contact our office using the contact information below.

This site is maintained by the Florida Department of Transportation Office of Work Program and Budget.
605 Suwannee Street, MS 21, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

For additional information please e-mail questions or comments to: (Lisa Saliba: Lisa.Saliba@dot.state.fl.us or call 850-414-4622)

View Contact Information for Office of Work Program and Budget
Office Home: Office of Work Program and Budget
Florida Department of Transportation Home
**Project Summary**

**Transportation System:** NON-INTRASTATE STATE HIGHWAY  
**District:** 06 - Miami-Dade County  
**Description:** Sr 985/Sw 107 Avenue From Sw 12 Street To Sw 4 Street  
**Type of Work:** ADD LANES & REHABILITATE PVMNT  

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March 14, 2012

Kenneth A. Jessell, Ph.D.
CFO and Senior Vice President
Finance and Administration
Florida International University
11200 SW 8th Street, PC 523
Miami, FL 33199

Subject: Florida International University SAMS Proposal
“Sustainable University City Sub-Area Mobility Study”

Dear Mr. Jessell:

The purpose of this letter is to inform Florida International University (University) that the Florida Department of Transportation (Department) intends to program funding in fiscal years 2013 and 2014 to support the University Sub-area Mobility Study (SAMS) proposal with $102,000 in each fiscal year. This funding level represents 50% of the cost of the SAMS scope of work. The SAMS study is included as part of the local in-kind match for the proposed University Fiscal Year 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant submittal entitled “University City Prosperity Project”. Please note that Department funding for this proposal is contingent upon the successful award of the University’s TIGER grant submittal to USDOT.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in this partnership to improve transportation linkages within the City of Sweetwater. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 305-470-5464 or Harold.desdunes@dot.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Harold Desdunes, P.E.
District Director of Transportation Development

c:
The Honorable Manuel L. Moroño, Mayor, City of Sweetwater
Robert Herrada, City of Sweetwater
Steve Sauls, Vice President Government Relations, FIU, PC 519
Tom Gustafson, Director of Government and Transportation Policy, FIU, PC 525
Gus Pego, P.E., District Secretary
Debora Rivera, P.E., Director of Transportation Operations
Aileen Boucle, AICP, Intermodal Systems Planning Administrator
Phil Steinmiller, Planning Office
March 19, 2012

Kenneth A. Jessell, Ph. D.
Senior Vice President/CFO
Florida International University
University Park/ Maidique Campus
11200 SW 8th Street, PC 523
Miami, Florida 33199

Re: UniversityCity Project TIGER Proposal

Dear Vice President/CFO Jessell:

On behalf of the City of Sweetwater, I am pleased to provide to you this letter of support and commitment for the FIU-led UniversityCity Project TIGER Proposal for FY2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant funds. I have been briefed by engaged FIU personnel and my own Chief of Staff, Robert Herrada, who has been very closely monitoring this proposal and you have my full support.

I have seen the plans developed by TYLIN International for improvements to SW 109th Avenue that widen walking opportunities and establish a linear park along both sides (as right-of-way allows) inclusive of the development of a City Hall Plaza on city owned property and they meet with my approval acting as the City's Chief Executive Officer. I do want to consult with the Sweetwater City Commission regarding these matters, but I see no problem in reaching the specific agreement as to timing and finalizing the details as to these UniversityCity Project components that involve activities within Sweetwater:

- Improvements to SW 109th Avenue as agreed upon with FIU to be performed by the FIU selected entity (or entities) along with those who will also be building the new parking garage, the Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station, Parabola Bridge, and the pedestrian improvements on the Maidique Campus;
- use of $260,000 in these TIGER grant funds for Sweetwater to undertake the following activities as agreed upon by FIU: i) major maintenance, general repairs, fabrication and positioning of improved seating and interior conditions and the painting of the three existing Sweetwater community transit vehicles and a small all electric rubber-tired trolley currently stored at FIU; and ii) purchase of associated equipment and supplies for these major maintenance, repairs, and painting; and, iii) the taking of title of the small electric rubber-tired trolley when accepted by the Maintenance Department as in working order (it currently needs the afore mentioned work to become operational);
commitment to the use of a second Sweetwater Community Transit vehicle identified by Sweetwater in a manner as agreed upon with FIU (an anticipated cost to Sweetwater of $55,000 per year for three years assuming an eight hour service five days per week) once FIU and Sweetwater agree on how all four vehicles will be updated for local community transit services and how the second Sweetwater Community Transit vehicle will operate between FIU Engineering Center, destinations suiting the needs of Sweetwater citizens at or around the commercial properties at the intersection of SW107th Avenue and West Flagler Street and along SW109th Street including Sweetwater City Hall, the Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station in the planned FIU parking garage west of the Red Parking Garage on the Maidique Campus, and the Shuttle Stop to be built as part of the proposed Covered Walkway to the Green Library west of the Owa Ehan Building (it being assumed that the first Sweetwater Community Transit vehicle identified by Sweetwater will run the route for community services as it does now or otherwise as Sweetwater determines is best for its residents and that the third Sweetwater Community Transit vehicle identified by Sweetwater is held in good working order as a Sweetwater reserve vehicle; and,

agreement to use the small all electric trolley for any of the following: short trips between City Hall and the Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station and afore mentioned Shuttle Spot for a small fee per passenger; short trips between Sweetwater and FIU using FIU interns or others for special and community event trips; and, use for concierge services associated with the hotel planned adjacent the new parking garage that houses the Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station as shown generally by the attached.

I do not anticipate having any problems reaching agreements on the particulars with FIU after the TIGER grant is awarded as to the exact details of these operational matters. I understand this agreement as between FIU and Sweetwater will also include the more frequent use of SW 109th Avenue by the FIU CATS shuttle vehicles operating between FIU Engineering Building and Maidique Campus ATMS, the afore mentioned Shuttle Stop and other destinations.

It is a recognized mutual goal of FIU and Sweetwater to optimize the use of available small transit vehicles for Sweetwater residents, employers, employees, and visitor as well as FIU students, faculty, other personnel, and visitor especially when crossing US 41 at SW 109th Avenue.

As FIU’s partner in these University City Project TIGER Proposal that grew out of the University City Alliance Charrette of September 23-24, 2011, I whole heartedly support these efforts and will do whatever is in my power to help bring about this University City Project to a successful conclusion and deployment in the event of US DOT TIGER funds awarded.

With the above conditions in mind, please accept this pledge by Sweetwater of the amount for these new community transit operations not to exceed $55,000 for each year of a three year period beginning March 1, 2011 (total commitment not to exceed $165,000) plus the use of Sweetwater right-of-way as depicted by the attached TYLIN drawings for pedestrian oriented improvements along SW 109th Avenue from SW 5th Street to US 41/SW8th Street subject to review and Sweetwater approval of the final construction plans and agreement as to the term of such use.
I concur in the estimated values for use of the right-of-way as $1,613,040 for purposes of the UniversityCity Project TIGER Proposal (based on TYLIN drawings showing 34,320 square feet of area for the pedestrian improvements on both sides on the SW109th Avenue times average property values as calculated by FIU’s I/ICRC-CAKE at $47 per square foot).

Further, I agree that maintenance costs for keeping the pedestrian improvements along SW 109th Avenue will require Sweetwater maintenance to spend more time on this corridor and that a fair estimate of the extra effort is $25,000 per year for the next 10 years ($250,000).

The exact manner for the carrying out of this maintenance issue, along with the proposed $260,000 TIGER funded repair and refurbishing efforts for the three Sweetwater community transit vehicles and a fourth electric rubber-tired trolley vehicle (that would be titled to Sweetwater after such repairs), as described in the UniversityCity Project TIGER Proposal will be agreed upon with FIU immediately after and in the event of the US DOT award of a TIGER grant to FIU for FY2011.

In addition to these commitments, Sweetwater had made a commitment to undertake a Sustainable Sweetwater Sub-Area Mobility Study (Sustainable Sweetwater SAMS) conditioned of the award of a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY2011 Community Challenge Planning Grant in FY2011. That HUD grant was not awarded and this SAMS study has been newly proposed as an effort to understand how to improve mobility throughout the entire University City Community (the entire FIU Maudique Campus, City of Sweetwater and adjacent properties). This proposed one year study proposed to commence on August 2012 and to conclude by August 2013 would help to identify how best to plan other transportation improvements to transform Sweetwater, FIU and adjoining properties into a well-designed, mobile, and prosperous UniversityCity. If following the award of FY2012 TIGER funds FIU will lead on this $408,000 initiative, and conditioned upon award of the FY2012 TIGER funds, Sweetwater will secure funding to reimburse FIU for one-fourth of the expenses incurred (assume $102,000) in addition to FDOT who has indicated it will reimburse FIU for one-half of the expenses incurred (assume $204,000) using the talent and expertise available to FIU through the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement (I/UCRC-CAKE) and Lehman Center for Transportation Research (LCTR), and other academic and research centers.

As the FY2012 UniversityCity Prosperity Project submittal indicates, in addition the City Hall Plaza, the City is planning to develop a City Hall Parking Structure and Access (CHIPA) improvements with liner building(s) and access improvements for pedestrians to SW 109th Avenue and for automotive traffic from SW 107th Avenues. In addition, metered street parking, metered structured parking, traffic calming adjacent SW 109th, and complete street improvements on the west side of SW 107th Avenue would be undertaken. This will give Sweetwater a smart parking alternative to FIU parking and a stimulus for the development of Sweetwater’s downtown. Based on input from the City Engineer and town planning and parking experts, we believe these improvements can be developed over the next five years as a $20 million improvement funded through parking receipts and we will endeavor to undertake these efforts based upon the improvements initiated with the award of the FY 2012 TIGER funds.
If there are questions regarding these grant activities, please contact Robert Herrada, Sweetwater Chief of Staff, or myself.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mayor Manuel Maroño

City of Sweetwater
March 15, 2012

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

Subject: FY 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for the FIU University City Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Miami Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) is pleased to provide this letter of support to the Florida International University (FIU) grant application for the University City Project.

The University City Project TIGER Proposal describes how FIU would:

- Research and develop technology for a robust Sustainable Informed Traveler Program (SITP) pilot project so it can be deployed initially for: FIU students, faculty, employees and visitors; Sweetwater residents, employers, employees and visitors; and, the most frequent users of the Dolphin Expressway (SR-836) and Airport Expressway (SR-112).
- Develop pedestrian-oriented and multimodal infrastructural improvements including:
  - an Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station (ATMS);
  - an ATMS terminal and related mixed-use pedestrian-oriented areas; an Advanced Pedestrian-Oriented Complete Streets (APOCS) network along and adjacent to SW 109th Avenue consisting of: traffic-calmed streets; pedestrian plazas, corridors and boardwalks; pedestrian-oriented parking structures, mixed-use development, transit greenways (linear parks with transit running through it), and mixed-mode streets (without access for automotive traffic) in the City of Sweetwater and FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus; and,
  - an initial transit greenway system spanning the Modesto A. Maidique Campus and Sweetwater.

MDX intends to partner with FIU for initial work in an amount approximately $265,000 that is to be undertaken by the research personnel at the National Science Foundation’s Industry-University Cooperative Research Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement at FIU and the FIU’s Integrated Intelligent Transportation System Laboratory at the Lehman Center for Transportation Research.
FIU will be undertaking these efforts so that it can better define the work plan and way ahead for research and technology development that would:

- oblige all SITP related TIGER funds by June 30, 2013;
- establish a proof of concept on or about December 2013; and,
- identify the steps needed to be undertaken for the deployment of a robust pilot SITP project by or about December 2014.

This initial work would begin immediately after FIU receives the announcement of a TIGER award and the federal funding becomes available from FY2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant proceeds. MDX understands that, after it authorizes FIU to commence this initial $265,000 of work, that FIU will also be expending approximately $8 million in FY2012 TIGER funds that have been requested by FIU. FIU will undertake SITP research and technology development efforts as necessary to develop with IBM, MDX, and others the SITP technology that represents an adequate proof of concept that STIP can be effectively deployed.

Once the proof of concept has been established, MDX and FIU will jointly identify an additional $10 million in funding sources necessary to deploy a robust STIP pilot project that focuses on the providing for the multimodal transportation information needs of people traveling between FIU, the City of Sweetwater and the Miami Intermodal Center.

These SITP and other UniversityCity Prosperity Project improvements would be undertaken upon the award of the FIU requested FY 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant funds in coordination with the Miami-Dade County proposed SR-836 Express Enhanced Bus Service to be operated by Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) on US 41, on SW 107th Avenue, and on SR-836/ Dolphin Expressway. The SR-836 Express Enhanced Bus Service TIGER Proposal is being separately developed by MDT and MDX as a FY2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant submittal. Both of these proposals would enhance the mobility of Miami-Dade County.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this important project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 305 637-3277 ext. 2201 or email jrodriguez@mdxway.com

Sincerely,

Javier Rodriguez, P.E.
Executive Director
March 16, 2012

VIA EMAIL

Dr. Kenneth A. Jessell, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
Florida International University
11200 S.W. 8th Street, PC 523
Miami, FL 33199

Re: FY 2012 TIGER Grant Application Letter of Support

Dear Dr. Jessell:

Our firm represents RRAC University Apartments, LLC (hereinafter, "RRAC"), the developer of a proposed 550-bed student housing project located at approximately 737 SW 109th Avenue within the City of Sweetwater ("City"). The propose project site is located immediately north of and within three hundred feet (300') of the Florida International University ("FIU") Modesto A. Maidique (hereinafter, the "Maidique Campus").

RRAC has been working in collaboration with the City and FIU to implement their shared vision for the University City District – a mixed-use district designed to further integrate the economies of both the City and FIU through the implementation of recently adopted land development regulations that enhance walkability and allow for the introduction of uses that complement the university’s growth. With the support of FIU and the City, RRAC has committed to construct the aforementioned project with an estimated construction cost of approximately $35 million. When completed in early 2014, the proposed 15-story building will provide state-of-the art residential units exclusively for FIU students, faculty, and staff, as well as 5,000 sq. ft. of ground floor retail space that will enhance offerings within the City. The building’s design incorporates a number of features, including a colonnade, which are intended to enhance the pedestrian experience along SW 109th Avenue. Elevations of the proposed building are enclosed for your review.

The success of the University City District is contingent, in part, upon future transportation and pedestrian facility enhancements that will serve to better connect the district with the Maidique Campus and the Maidique Campus with other parts of Miami-Dade County. Given this need, RRAC is committed to support FIU and the City in their efforts to construct the proposed Parabola Bridge across U.S.
Highway 41 and the proposed pedestrian-oriented, multi-modal improvements to the SW 109th Corridor. Given that such improvements will surely enhance the livability and economic competitiveness of the City, FIU and our region, RRAC wholeheartedly endorses FIU’s application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for an FY 2012 TIGER grant.

Sincerely,

Javier E. Fernández
Associate

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Manuel M. Marono, Mayor, City of Sweetwater
Vojkan Dimitrijevic, Asst. Vice President – Auxiliary & Enterprise Development, Florida International University
Tomas F. Gustafson, Jr., Director of Research Programs, Florida International University
Ken Stapleton, Ken Stapleton & Associates
Ricardo Vadía, Manager, RRAC University Apartments, LLC
March 12, 2012

Ken Jessell, Senior Vice President/CFO
UniversityCity Prosperity Project
Florida International University

Dr. Jessell,
This proposal letter for services related to the 2012 TIGER Grant proposal for the UniversityCity Prosperity Project outlines our work tasks, deliverables, and fees related to a Safedesign™ review of the various project components in order to enhance real and perceived safety, particularly for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users.

Work Tasks
- Review concept and final drawings for all components of the project as they are available
- Meet with project designers and participants as well as local law enforcement
- Make preliminary verbal recommendations for improvements regarding land use patterns, building designs, public realm improvements, transit operations, lighting, and other related aspects of the designs. Discuss optional solutions with design team.
- Make final written recommendations.

Deliverables
- Meeting notes from exploratory discussions and preliminary recommendation sessions
- Final report containing all written recommendations

Fees
- $150/hour billable in segments of .25 hours
- Fee cap of $50,000 in year 1 of the project
- Fee cap of $15,000 each in years 2 and 3 of the project

Thank you very much for the opportunity to add value to your project.
Sincerely,

Ken Stapleton, President

March 12, 2012
March 13, 2012

Ken Jessell, Senior Vice President/CFO
Florida International University

Dear Dr. Jessell:

This is a proposal letter for our consulting services to FIU in support of its Informed&Sustained Traveler Program being proposed by FIU to US DOT as a project under a 2012 TIGER grant for the UniversityCity Prosperity Project.

As President of Pirouette Software, Inc, producer of MOBI-DIK, and as Director of the Computational Transportation Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago, I am very interested in the proposed project. I am available to provide algorithms, evaluation, and guidance for the proposed program.

My fees will be $50,000 per year for three years, charged at my standard daily rate of $2400.

3/13/2012

Ouri Wolfson, Ph.D.,
President, Pirouette Software Consulting Inc
Dear Dr Jessell, 

As president of Downtown FX, Incorporated, a Florida S corporation, I will provide consultation and services regarding computer visualization techniques to enhance the Informed Traveler Program and UniversityCity project proposed by Florida International University (FIU).

My standard fee is $50.00 per hour. I can provide 10 hours per week on average for a total of three years. There will be a maximum of $25,000 billed for each of the three years. The period of work begins August 1, 2012 and ends July 30th, 2015.

Description of work:
In close consultation with FIU faculty, researchers, and students involved in the UniversityCity project, I will provide expertise in developing enhanced 3D imagery based on data provided by the TerraFly system and other project sources. Visualizations may also need to be produced as content assets for data presentations and I will provide expertise and support toward this goal within the time constraints outlined above.

Within the time allotted I can provide training for the research team in 3D animation software and digital media production software using Autodesk Maya. Other software along with open source software such as Blender (3D, digital media production) will be implemented in support of the research effort to enhance visual components presented by the system.

Statement of Qualifications:
I have over 20 years of expertise in 3D animation, video production, and interactive design. During the 1990s I created short animated digital films which were shown internationally at film festivals and aired on local and national television broadcasts. For 17 years I worked as a researcher and artist at the Florida Center for Electronic Communication (CEC), serving as Associate and Interim Director, teaching graduate and undergraduate students, and developing the digital studio to meet current industry quality. My last visualization project won the FAU Ocean Engineering department a $5 million dollar award for the university's second Center of Excellence.

During the CEC's existence I was instrumental in establishing a successful Master of Fine Arts in Computer Arts program. This program placed many of its graduates in the game development industry as well post-secondary teaching.

At present I teach for FAU's School of Communication covering various topics in 3D animation. In addition I have been collaborating with a colleague in Computer Science and Engineering, Dr. Ravi Shankar, to develop Android applications development curriculum.

I look forward to further discussion on this proposal.

Best Regards,

Francis X. McAfee
President, Downtown FX, Inc

3/15/2012
March 19, 2012

Kenneth A. Jessell, PhD  
Senior Vice President/CFO  
Florida International University  
University Park/Modique Campus  
11200 S. W. 8th Street, PC 523  
Miami, Florida  33199

Subject: UniversityCity Prosperity Project TIGER Proposal

Dear Dr. Jessell:

Please find listed below a proposal to rebuild/repair and enhance Sweetwater's three bus fleet so that they will be more dependable, more attractive, and more enjoyable to customers using the service. Also included is a proposal to repurpose the small rubber tire hybrid-electric trolley currently stored at FIU's Engineering Center.

This proposal assumes city employees assigned to assist in this work would be trained by me to more effectively provide preventative maintenance services and to enhance their overall vehicle repair and automotive paint skills. The budget I recommend also includes an amount for the vehicle lift the Maintenance Department needs.

Please also find photos of previous design and development projects accomplished.

Thank you,

George M. Brenyo  
Vehicle Design and Fabrication
Proposal

1. Re-purpose Hybrid-Electric Trolley...........................................$24,000
2. Enhance Existing 3 Community Bus Coach fleet...........................$66,000
3. Coach Lift ..............................................................................$18,000
4. 16 months Design and Hands-on Management @ 40 hours per week.... $152,000
   $260,000

Previous Designed and Developed Vehicles

Image 6: Small rubber-tire electric trolley would operate on traffic-calmed streets as well as mixed-mode corridors and transit greenways in MMC and elsewhere. Designed for speeds of 25 mph and less it is a worthy alternative to golf cart vehicles in for use in pedestrian oriented public space. This vehicle is sized between the shuttle vehicles and golf carts and can work within pedestrian oriented built environments.

A RetroBus and the Large Red Trolley
Passenger Perfect

Passengers and Operators continually remark about the roominess and comfort of the Specialty Vehicles’ Jitney Tram. That’s because the Jitney Tram is economically designed for premium performance at an inexpensive price. Constructed with non-skid rubber flooring, step lighting and a public announcement system, the Jitney Tram offers a spacious, comfortable ride. Its breezy, open-air design is perfect for any resorts, theme parks, or tour and shuttle companies. It’s also the reason passengers and operators love riding in our trams.
March 15, 2012

TIGER Institutional Lead
Dr. Kenneth Jessell
Florida International University
11200 SW 8th ST
Miami, FL 33199

Dear Dr. Jessell:

IBM is pleased to present this Budget and Planning Estimate to Florida International University (“FIU”) for the IBM services proposed in support of Phase 1 of the Informed Traveler Program (“ITP”). IBM is also making available to FIU the IBM Academic Initiative Program which will give the researchers access to the licensed software products at no charge during the research phases of the ITP.

The Budget and Planning Estimate for IBM Professional Services contains a preliminary planning estimate that can be used for project budgeting purposes. The estimate is based on information provided by your team.

Estimated Total IBM ITP Project Pricing $5,657,250.00

IBM appreciates the opportunity to work with FIU on this strategic project. If you should have any questions, or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 305-206-5022 or by email at eloos@us.ibm.com or contact Juan Caraballo at jfc@us.ibm.com.

Sincerely,

Emily Loos
IBM Client Executive
Public Sector Industry

Attachments

cc: Bill Glendenning, IBM
Juan Caraballo, IBM
Blake Serra, IBM
March 15, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast  
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

RE: TIGER IV

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the Florida International University (FIU)'s efforts to obtain a federal grant. The goal of their proposed project, University City Project, is to create innovative transportation practices while promoting economic development in South Florida and the Southeast Florida region. I respectfully request your consideration of this organization's application for federal funding.

Quality programs that foster economic prosperity, encourage multi-modal improvements and extend pedestrian oriented public spaces are important to me as a U.S. Senator. If funded, both the FIU and Miami-Dade TIGER proposals will work together to change the socio-economic outcome of South Florida and will produce an effective transit system. Furthermore, this grant will allow Miami-Dade and FIU to provide more frequent transport and connectivity between the Miami Intermodal Center, University City, and several significant destinations throughout Miami-Dade County and the region.

Again, I encourage your consideration of this worthy cause. If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below.

Sincerely,

Bill Nelson

BN/ut

CC: Mr. Pedro Villa, Regional Director, U. S. Senator Bill Nelson
The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We write to express our full support for a FY2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant application being submitted by Florida International University (FIU) that seeks to deploy innovative transportation practices, and in turn, spur economic development in South Florida and the Southeast Florida region. We understand that the unique combination of improvements in this proposal offer great promise beyond Miami as they will create completely new models of efficient mobility systems that intentionally and directly support economic development and competitiveness.

Specifically, it is our belief that the UniversityCity Project initiative will foster economic prosperity for residents of the region by integrating the deployment of an internationally recognized, state-of-the-practice Informed Traveler Program (ITP) with a new multimodal transportation hub on the FIU Campus and Express Enhanced Bus Service on State Road-836.

This TIGER grant would also make possible multi-modal improvements, including traffic-calmed streets, transit greenways, and mixed-mode corridors in the City of Sweetwater, Florida, connecting this community with the FIU Maidique Campus. At the same time, by extending these pedestrian-oriented public spaces to the Maidique Campus Green Library, Sweetwater and FIU corridor improvements will help to aggregate SR-835 Express Enhanced Bus Service customers at a new Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station (ATMS) at FIU. The SR-836 Express enhanced Bus Service proposal is a separate Miami-Dade Transit submittal for a FY2012 TIGER award that would provide premium and evolving bus rapid transit service between western Miami-Dade County/FIU and the Miami Intermodal Center.

Both the FIU and Miami-Dade Transit TIGER proposals merit Department of Transportation support and implemented together they can vastly change the socio-economic outcome of South Florida. Working together, they are larger than their respective parts. In the event the Department of Transportation agrees to award TIGER grants to both Miami-Dade and FIU, there will exist a robust, frequent, and very smart transit system operating between multiple east and west Miami-Dade destinations with superior customer acceptance and high use.

The UniversityCity Project emanates from transportation challenges and solutions identified through earlier efforts by FIU, the City of Sweetwater, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, and Florida Department of Transportation District 6 and International Business Machines (IBM) and initial work undertaken by FIU through the efforts of the Lehman Center for Transportation Research, the Metropolitan Center, the School of Architecture, and the Honor College.

Thanks to the innovation and pledged support of IBM, who will provide assets, technologies, and expertise, thousands of Southeast Florida residents will benefit from the ITP. By connecting them to live-data on traffic patterns, actual transit options, and modeled predictions of the optimal routes, alternative trip departure times and related destinations or activities, and modal alternatives, the citizens and visitors to Miami-Dade County will be able to optimize their transportation choices and reduce trip costs, fuel, emissions, and travel time.
Once this UniversityCity and transit/ITP complex is established as a working advanced transit oriented development, FIU will be able with US DOT to determine and quantify if reduced transportation costs, emissions, fuel consumption, and congestion has occurred and whether large numbers of people walking larger than typical distances access transit in larger than expected numbers and increased passenger revenues for as to diminish the need for operating subsidies. An ITP pilot that supports and provides guidance to the enhanced pedestrian access at UniversityCity linked to the SR-836 Express Enhanced Bus Service via the Advanced Transit and Multimodal Station and that includes the high quality public space that spans eight lanes of highway at US 41, ought to establish a likely basis for higher usage of transit including the very large number of transportation options available at the Miami Intermodal Center via the SR-836 Express Enhanced Bus Service to and from UniversityCity.

FIU serves as a logical lead partner to help bring about this innovative deployment that will connect communities within the region. In addition to attracting and developing internationally savvy talent that drives Florida’s growing knowledge economy, FIU is one of the 25 largest universities in the US with over 48,000 students and staff. It is also the largest Hispanic serving university and serves as an anchor for the emerging South Florida biotech corridor. Its campuses attract nearly 500,000 visitors annually, making it the academic, social, cultural, athletic, recreational center in western Miami-Dade County.

We are glad to report that the Florida Department of Transportation has been engaged with FIU and Miami-Dade Transit the larger vision for easing transportation problems and has been working with FIU throughout the development of their proposal. It is our understanding that these TIGER grants will allow Miami-Dade and FIU to provide more frequent transport and connectivity between the Miami intermodal Center, UniversityCity, and many significant destinations throughout Miami-Dade County and the region.

As you consider how best to make these critical TIGER investments, we urge, within all applicable rules and regulations, support of this project which will have a significant impact on the Southeast Florida Region and the Nation.

Sincerely,

Mario Díaz-Balart
Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress

David Rivera
Member of Congress

Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress
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) 469-5406 or email yllort@miamidade.gov.

Sincerely,

Ysela Llort  
Director
March 19, 2012

The Honorable 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
March 19, 2012

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

Re: FY 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant Program

Dear Secretary LaHood,

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC), on behalf of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership (Partnership), is pleased to support Florida International University’s application to the FYI 2012 TIGER Discretionary Grant Program in support of the proposed UniversityCity Prosperity Project.

In 2010, the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, led by the South Florida Regional Planning Council in partnership with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, was awarded a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (U.S. HUD). The Partnership is led by the SFRPC in conjunction with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. Grant funds are being used to develop a “Regional Vision and Blueprint for Economic Prosperity” that will serve as a strategic plan to guide the creation of a more sustainable future for the more than 6 million residents in the seven county region comprised of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties.

It is our understanding that Florida International University, in partnership with the City of Sweetwater, the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority and others, will use the requested funding and substantial local match to undertake a catalytic demonstration project that will showcase an innovative university-community partnership, and provide a replicable model for transforming older communities into more diverse, sustainable and economically prosperous communities featuring new housing, advanced mobility and educational opportunities.

c/o South Florida Regional Planning Council
3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021
Tel: (954) 985-4416; Fax: (954) 985-4417; sfadmin@sfrpc.com
This project will be undertaken by Consortium and Partnership members and is supportive of the U.S. HUD’s Sustainable Communities Planning Grant program. It will significantly advance the work of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership and the federal partnership’s livability principles.

We respectfully request your support. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Isabel Cosio Carballo
Director of Public Affairs
U.S. HUD Designated Sustainable Communities Contact