

greater  
miami  
chamber  
of commerce

March 20, 2012

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce I am writing in strong support of two complementary grant proposals submitted by Florida International University (FIU) and Miami-Dade County, Florida, in partnership with the City of Sweetwater, Florida and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) under the fourth round of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant Program.

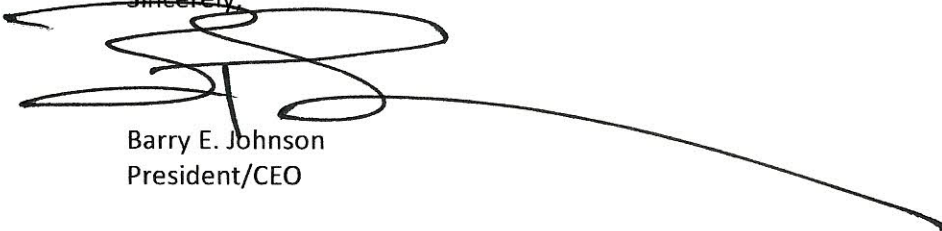
As an organization that is keenly aware of both the economic needs and entrepreneurial potential of South Florida, it is my trust that the Department will give considerable thought to these innovative and resourceful projects that do have economic development and job creation as core goals.

The implementation of an Advanced Transit Multimodal Station (ATMS) on the FIU campus, a high-tech predictive Informed Traveler program, and a robust Express Bus Rapid Transit line along SR-836 will go far in connecting key corridors and our residents with livability in mind. These proposals will allow for reliable transportation from Western Miami-Dade County to functioning stations throughout the Miami-Dade area and contribute to the future success of the Miami Intermodal Complex (MIC) adjacent to Miami International Airport.

This Chamber of Commerce has been an ardent advocate of the department's key initiatives such as Sustainable Communities and efforts at High Speed Rail, and provide you every confidence that these recent submissions will also provide the department with models for nationally significant innovation.

As the Department of Transportation considers among many worthy applicants, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce eagerly supports these proposals for the potential they hold to connect our communities and develop our regional economy.

Sincerely,



Barry E. Johnson  
President/CEO

**GREATER MIAMI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

1601 Biscayne Boulevard • Miami, Florida 33132-1260 • 305-350-7700 • Fax 305-374-6902  
Statewide Toll Free 888-660-5955  
[www.miamichamber.com](http://www.miamichamber.com)