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20TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0920

March 30, 2012

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As the Member of Congress for the 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Florida, representing portions of Broward and Miami-Dade counties, I write in support of Florida International University (FIU)'s TIGER IV application. FIU's campuses in Miami-Dade and Broward counties serve many of my constituents, and the institution acts as both a cultural and economic hub across South Florida.

I appreciate the attention that the Department has taken to brief and prepare FIU and its partners, namely Miami-Dade County, IBM, the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, and the City of Sweetwater for this submission. This approach to developing transportation solutions enjoys broad and multi-sector support in South Florida, and I wanted to forward you the attached letters on behalf of FIU's application.

As I have conveyed in previous letters of support of this undertaking, FIU's UniversityCity Prosperity Project is an innovative plan for intelligent growth, sustainability, and cutting-edge transportation and development. The initiative will foster economic prosperity and improve transportation options for residents of the South Florida region by integrating the deployment of an internationally respected, state-of-the-practice Informed Traveler Program (ITP) with a new multimodal transportation hub on the FIU Campus, connecting travelers to Express Enhanced Bus Service on State Road-836.

The UniversityCity Prosperity Project emanates from transportation challenges and solutions that the Florida Congressional delegation has grappled with for years. Thanks to TIGER, the federal government has an opportunity here to leverage investment for even greater impact. This particular application will match the requested amount of \$20 million with an additional \$120 million in local matching funds.

I applaud FIU's efforts to create a system that is user-friendly and sustainable, and that will drive South Florida's innovation economy. Thank you for your consideration of this thoughtful approach that has the potential to serve as a model for the nation. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Seth Extein in my Washington, D.C. office.

Sincerely,



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress