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 – University City 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,

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

Cc: Mayor Manuel Maroño
    Javier Rodriguez
    Ysella Llort
    Mayor Carlos Gimenez
    Jose Abreu
    Gus Pego
    Ysella Llort
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 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 412479-2-52-01 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.
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
Heidi Solaun-Dominguez, P.E., FDOT Project Manager

Attachment