

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

September 8, 2009

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

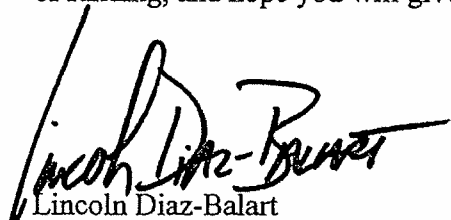
Dear Secretary LaHood:

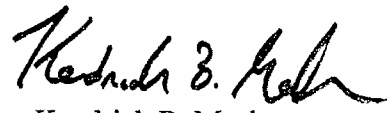
As members of Congress representing Broward County, Florida, we are proud to support the County's effort with respect to the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (stimulus grants), which support capital investments in transportation infrastructure projects.

The Florida Department of Transportation is submitting a TIGER grant application which includes Port Everglades' Eller Drive project. The project is a priority for Broward County. The anticipated \$58.3 million cost of the Eller Drive Overpass is expected to generate 1,076 direct, induced and indirect total jobs. The estimated personal income generated by these jobs due to the construction of the overpass is approximately \$43.7 million. State and local taxes generated by the construction activity are expected to reach \$4 million, while Federal taxes supported by the construction are projected at \$12.3 million.

Critical to the economic recovery of the South Florida region, TIGER awards will assure funding to support infrastructural improvements, construction and other skilled labor, and federal, state, and local taxes. We believe wholeheartedly that this program is deserving of funding, and hope you will give this application every consideration.

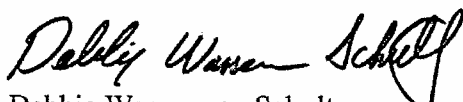
Cordially,

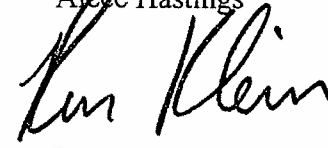
  
Lincoln Diaz-Balart

  
Kendrick B. Meek

  
Robert Wexler

  
Alcee Hastings

  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz

  
Ron Klein

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

September 10, 2009

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As members of Congress representing Broward County, Florida, we are proud to support the County's effort with respect to the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (stimulus grants).

Broward County is submitting a collaborative project, *Integrated System Performance Project*, to: (a) finance the completion of Phase 1 and construction of Phase 2 of the County's (ATMS); (b) purchase hybrid transit propulsion technology buses (HTPT), and; (c) provide Transit Signal Priority (TSP) hardware for the buses. By synergistically combining traffic and transit operations efforts, Broward County proposes to provide a more efficient and reliable traffic and transit system. The results will help improve not only the Broward Transit system, but will also offer operational data for consideration on a national scale.

The request offers several direct and indirect economic benefits to the Broward County community. First, the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of the ATMS will provide many new job opportunities for engineers, contractors, construction workers, electricians, communications specialists, and system operators. In addition to the direct benefits of creating more jobs, the efficiency and mobility added to the transportation network by ATMS will improve commuter travel times, ease congestion, and generally improve quality of life for Broward County residents and employees. These improvements will provide secondary benefits in terms of economic sustainability, greenhouse gas emissions, property values, urban redevelopment, and attracting tourism.

Based on the results of similar systems, the TSP link between the ATMS system and the buses could show the following economic benefits:

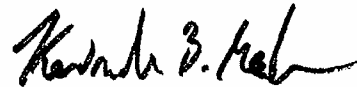
- 43% increase in ridership
- 19% mode shift from single auto
- 17% reduction in travel time

Critical to the economic recovery of the South Florida region, TIGER awards will assure funding to support infrastructural improvements, construction and other skilled labor, and federal, state, and local taxes. We believe wholeheartedly that this program is deserving of funding, and hope that, consistent with all applicable rules and standards, you will give this application appropriate consideration.

Cordially,



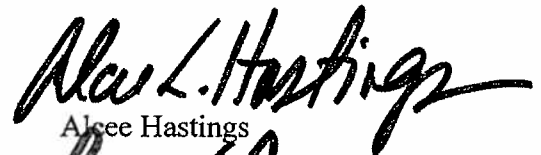
Lincoln Diaz-Balart



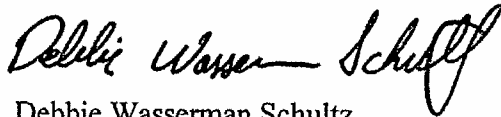
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