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October 28, 2011

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Roksan Okan-Vick, FAIA  
*Executive Director*

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590-001

Subject: Support for Houston's TIGER III Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to add my support to the City of Houston's application for the 2011 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER III) Program. I am also confirming the Houston Parks Board's commitment to contribute \$1,272,000 of in-kind land donation and \$927,150 in cash for Projects #1, #2, #3 and #6 of the application, if the grant is awarded.

The Houston Parks Board is a non-profit organization that partners with the City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department to acquire and improve parkland in Houston. Since its inception, the Parks Board has added almost 13,000 acres of strategically located parkland to the City's inventory and made over \$70 million in capital improvements.

In 1912, the author of Houston's first master plan observed that "the backbone of a park system for Houston will naturally be its bayous" which "furnish opportunities for parks of unusual value within a comparative short distance of most of the residential areas." With its many partners, the Parks Board has dedicated itself to fulfilling this century-old vision of linear parks and shared use paths along the more than 300 miles of bayous throughout the Houston region.

Projects #2, #3, #4 and #6 of the application complete the last important gaps in the system of shared use paths along the bayous within Houston's urban core. Project #1 completes the White Oak Bayou path to the Northwest corner of the City. By funding this application, the Department of Transportation will provide needed momentum to the regional effort to complete the 300 miles of bayou trails. Building on this network of trails funded by this application, the Parks Board has committed itself to working with local cities, the county, the State of Texas and other local governments to complete the bayou greenway vision. As demonstrated in this letter, the Parks Board has also committed to raising private funds from families, foundations and corporations.

We urge you to join us in our effort to remake the City of Houston around our bayous by building shared use paths that increase safe transportation options and dramatically improve livability within our City.

Sincerely,

Roksan Okan-Vick  
Executive Director

Houston Parks Board  
300 North Post Oak Lane  
Houston, Texas 77024  
713.942.8500  
Fax 713.942.7664



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TataLease Derby

October 11, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590-001

Subject: Commitment of Funds for the City of Houston's TIGER III Application

Dear Secretary LaHood,

The Board of Directors for TIRZ #3 (the "Board") commits \$300,000 of currently available funds as a local match if the City of Houston is awarded the 2011 Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments (TIGER III). The local match commitment will be divided between Projects #3 and #4, with \$150,000 designated for each project.

The six proposed projects in the City's TIGER III application make significant improvements in the bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure that will greatly improve the quality of life in Houston. These projects will alleviate deteriorated street and site conditions and provide innovative transportation solutions. Both of these developments are critical to the long term economic health of the entire City. The Board is especially interested in the Projects #3 and #4 because these two projects fall within the boundaries of the TIRZ, and we believe the completion of the projects will greatly benefit our community.

For these reasons and as demonstrated by this financial commitment, the Board wholeheartedly supports the City's TIGER III proposal and hopes that it will receive your favorable review.

Very truly yours,

Xavier Pena  
Chairman  
Downtown Redevelopment Authority  
TIRZ No. 3

September 19, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590-001

Subject: Support for the City of Houston TIGER III Application

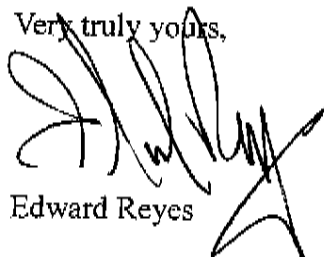
The Board of Directors for Hardy/Near Northside Redevelopment Authority (the "Board") has entered into an interlocal agreement with Central Houston Civic Improvement Inc. to fund a shared use path running from the intersection of Pickney Street and Fletcher Street to the shared use path known as either the White Oak Bayou Path or the Heights Bike Trail located in the City of Houston (the "Project").

The Board has already authorized the expenditure of funds for planning and design of the Project. Based on a preliminary estimate the Board commits itself to utilize currently available funds not to exceed \$400,000 to build the Project. Thus, the funding for this Project will be available if the City of Houston is awarded the 2011 Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments, known as the Tiger Discretionary Grant.

The development of this shared use path, along with the larger Tiger Discretionary Grant proposal submitted by the City of Houston, provides an important link from residential homes to public transit, retail and employment centers located in downtown Houston and all along the White Oak and Buffalo Bayou corridors. Such connections are especially important for the residences near the above described project, since that project is located in a census tract with a per capita income at thirty-six percent (36%) of the national average.

As demonstrated by our financial commitment, the Board wholeheartedly supports this proposal and hopes that it will receive your favorable consideration.

Very truly yours,



Edward Reyes



9900 Northwest Freeway  
Houston, Texas 77092  
713-684-4000  
[www.hcfcd.org](http://www.hcfcd.org)

October 19, 2011

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590-001

Reference: Support for the City of Houston's TIGER III Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to support the Bike/Ped Connections to Transit initiative submitted by the City of Houston for the Department of Transportation's 2011 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER III) program.

The Harris County Flood Control District (District) is pleased to support Projects #1, #2, #3, and #6 of this TIGER III application by providing a right-of-way for portions of the shared use path that will be built by these projects. By collaborating with the City of Houston, the City of Houston TIRZ #3, the City of Houston TIRZ #5, the City of Houston TIRZ #21, the Houston Parks Board, the University of Houston and the University of Houston-Downtown, the District is able to continue to support its mission statement of providing flood damage reduction projects that work, with appropriate regard for community and natural values.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Talbott", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael D. Talbott, P.E.  
Director

MDT:cg

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