

BEAM FURR, MAYOR

Board of County Commissioners District 6 115 S. Andrews Avenue • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 (954) 357-7006

June 11, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

Broward County is pleased to support the joint Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) grant application for design and implementation of the *Managing the Unexpected Everyday* Initiative. This initiative will provide much needed traffic operational improvements to the downtown Fort Lauderdale area that will help increase travel time reliability and improve road safety. This joint grant application proposes to install variable message signage, closed circuit TV, adaptive signal control, freight signal priority, expand data collection, and enhance the fiber optic network to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, and improve safety in the downtown area.

Broward County has a strong interest in the development of congestion management and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications to support improved mobility and accessibility of people and goods. The area served by the grant contains one of Broward County's largest employment and economic center. It also includes access to Port Everglades – a major cruise, fuel, and cargo port as well as the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport. Such technologies will allow FDOT, the MPO, and the County to maximize the use of our existing transportation infrastructure through more efficient movement. This funding will undoubtedly provide economic opportunities and an enhanced quality of life to people who live, work, or play in the downtown area.

Broward County supports FDOT and the MPO's bid to deploy these technologies. As part of the submittal, the County can support and commit to the O&M associated with the adaptive signal control systems, supporting fiber optic communication, and arterial electronic variable message signs located at Eller Drive and Spangler Boulevard serving Port Everglades. If FDOT and the MPO are successful in obtaining funding for this project, County staff looks forward to participating in ITS system testing and deployment when and where it is practicable. Sincerely,