## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 28, 2016

Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Broward MPO Regional Complete Streets Initiative FY2016 TIGER Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We write in support of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) FY 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) application. The \$11.3 million application for Broward County's *Regional Complete Streets Initiative* will significantly enhance pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to provide accessible and safe connections for residents, especially those in traditionally underserved communities.

The Broward MPO's application includes several much-needed *Regional Complete Streets Initiative* projects for the cities of Fort Lauderdale, Lauderdale Lakes, Oakland Park, and Pompano Beach. When completed, these facilities will form a 70-mile portion of a bicycle and pedestrian network in the Broward Region, connecting 85 educational facilities, employment centers, civic buildings, and other regional destinations.

The Broward County MPO has already partnered with these cities and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to fund 40 percent of the \$19.1 million project. These efforts build upon the existing *Regional Complete Streets Initiative*, to which the Broward MPO has already committed \$120 million in funds over the next five years for the purpose of constructing 90 miles of bicycle facilities and 35 miles of sidewalks.

TIGER funding will be used to improve upon existing infrastructure to make these facilities safer, greener, and more viable. By filling in a number of gaps in the existing portions of the pedestrian transportation network, this project will safely connect Broward County residents and visitors to major commercial, residential, and recreational facilities in the region. Nearly 250 bicyclists and pedestrians were killed on Broward County's roadways between 2011 and 2014, highlighting the importance of completing these projects.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of the Broward MPO's TIGER application and respectfully ask to be kept informed of the overall progress of this request. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Bill Nelson
Senator

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