

August 11, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Welbes,

I write to express OKI's strong support for the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio and the Talawanda School District for the Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride. This 5339 grant will allow for the construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by connecting eastern Butler County to the City of Oxford and Miami University. Construction of the proposed facilities will connect Butler County residents to real jobs and real employment opportunities. This project will serve as a vital economic boost to this rural area by connecting residents with Northwest Butler County's largest employer, Miami University.

BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system has in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability and sustainability throughout the region. This project will create transformational change by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities and encourage automobile drivers to park their cars and endorse alternate modes of travel.

BCRTA is an active member in the OKI MPO region and we have seen firsthand the fine work that they do. I strongly urge your favorable consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Policinski
CEO/Executive Director

T.C. Rogers
President

Mark R. Policinski
CEO





BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners

Donald L. Dixon

Cindy Carpenter

T.C. Rogers

August 15, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Welbes:

We are contacting you in order to express our unwavering support for the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, Talawanda School District and the City of Oxford, Ohio for \$9 million from the Department of Transportation's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program.

BCRTA seeks assistance to fund a portion of the proposed Butler County Connect project, Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park and Ride. The project includes bus facilities and office space for BCRTA and the Talawanda School District, in addition to fueling, vehicle washing, and covered storage for BCRTA, Miami University and the City of Oxford. Other passenger amenities of the project include bike parking/storage and indoor waiting areas and restrooms for passengers.

Most notably, the facility would be a true multimodal venue able to serve passengers of BCRTA, interurban bus services, and the proposed adjacent Amtrak platform in addition to local private vehicle commuters and bike riders. BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed facility and regional park and ride can have to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability.

We encourage the Federal Transit Administration to give its most sincere consideration to this grant application, to provide transformational transportation infrastructure to Oxford and Miami University in Butler County. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (513) 887-3247 or Commissioners@ButlerCountyOhio.org.

Sincerely,

T.C. Rogers, President

Cindy Carpenter, Vice President

Don Dixon, Member



Ohio Senate
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-8072

Committees:

Government Oversight and Reform - Chair
Judiciary
Finance -
 Finance Subcommittee on Medicaid
Education
Rules and Reference

William P. Coley, II
State Senator
4th District

August 16th, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Welbes,

I write to express my strong support for the grant application by Butler County Regional Transit Authority, in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program. This grant will allow for the construction of multimodal facilities and related appurtenances that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by connecting eastern Butler County to the City of Oxford and Miami University, both located in rural western Butler County.

Without access to affordable transportation options to connect eastern and western Butler County, employers in the area (notably the region's largest employer, Miami University) are having difficulty filling a number of jobs and ensuring a diverse workforce. Construction of the proposed intermodal facilities will therefore connect real jobs to areas in need of more employment opportunities and serve as an economic boost to this rural area.

Providing low cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities in Butler County could then serve as a model for bringing these benefits to other rural areas with similar problems. Butler County Regional Transit Authority and their partners are looking to demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system can have in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability.

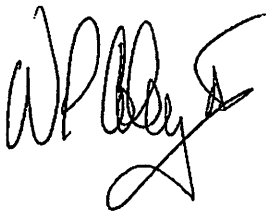
In addition to its significant value in promoting economic growth in Butler County, construction of the proposed intermodal facilities will improve the area's environmental sustainability, quality

of life, and most importantly, pedestrian safety in and around the City of Oxford and Miami University's campus.

By offering centrally located, convenient facilities that promote greater use of transit and cycling by area residents, the proposed facilities will improve the region's environmental sustainability. Additionally, it will take cars off Miami University's campus, thus improving pedestrian safety. Finally, the proposed facilities will contribute to bettering the quality of life in western Butler County by connecting them to recreational activities in the area surrounding the City of Oxford and Miami University's campus, such as live theater performances, festivals and sports competitions.

I encourage the Federal Transit Authority to give its most sincere consideration to this grant application, which brings new economic opportunities to western Butler County and has the potential to serve as a model to the nation for rural transit. If I may be of any further assistance, you will find that I am more than willing to help.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WPColey II', with a stylized flourish at the end.

William P. Coley, II
State Senator
4th Ohio Senate District

WC/dh



Wes Retherford State Representative

August 18, 2016

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Welbes,

I write to express my strong support for the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program. This grant will allow for the construction of multimodal facilities that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by creating infrastructure that does not exist today to connect eastern Butler County to the City of Oxford and Miami University.

Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real jobs to areas in need of employment opportunities that will serve as a vital economic boost to this rural area by connecting Butler County to employers in the area including the region's largest employer, Miami University. BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system has in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability throughout the region. This project will create transformational change by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities and encourage automobile drivers to park their cars and endorse alternate modes of travel.

I strongly urges your favorable consideration of this grant application. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at [phone number and/or email].
Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wes Retherford", is written over a faint background image of the Ohio Statehouse.

Wes Retherford
State Representative
Ohio House District 51

Committees:

Insurance
Ways and Means
Federalism and Interstate Relations

www.ohiohouse.gov
77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111

Contact Information:

Office: 614-644-6721
FAX: 614-719-6954
Email: Rep51@ohiohouse.gov



August 15, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Welbes:

I am writing to express my strong support for the grant application submitted by the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Department of Transportation's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program.

Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride includes bus facilities and office space for BCRTA and the Talawanda School District in addition to fueling, vehicle washing, and covered storage for Miami University and the City of Oxford. Other passenger amenities of the project include bike parking/storage and indoor waiting areas and restrooms for passengers. Most notably, the facility would be a true multimodal venue able to serve passengers of BCRTA, interurban bus services, and the proposed adjacent Amtrak platform in addition to local private vehicle commuters and bike riders.

The rewarding of this grant could also increase the market share of business development activity, but more importantly, could expand the number of satisfied clients, create more new jobs, and boost capital investment in the state.

I encourage the Federal Transit Administration to give its most sincere consideration to this visionary collaboration, which brings new economic vitality to western Butler County and has the potential, to serve as a model to the nation for rural transit. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (614) 330-1150 or pitts@jobs-ohio.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Pitts".

Aaron Pitts
Senior Managing Director

August 15, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Welbes:

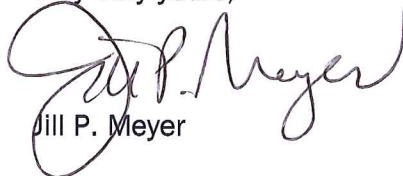
I write to endorse the grant application submitted by the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Department of Transportation's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program.

Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride includes bus facilities and office space for BCRTA and the Talawanda School District in addition to fueling, vehicle washing, and covered storage for Miami University and the City of Oxford. Other passenger amenities of the project include bike parking/storage and indoor waiting areas and restrooms for passengers. Most notably, the facility would be a true multimodal venue able to serve passengers of BCRTA, interurban bus services, and the proposed adjacent Amtrak platform in addition to local private vehicle commuters and bike riders.

The collaborative efforts of Miami University, the City of Oxford and the BCRTA to develop this plan resulted in a blueprint for a transportation system that will bring transformational infrastructure to Oxford, Miami University and the Greater Cincinnati Region.

I encourage the Federal Transit Administration to give its most sincere consideration to this visionary collaboration, which brings new economic vitality to western Butler County and our entire region of Southwest Ohio. If I may be of any further assistance, you will find I am more than willing to help.

Very truly yours,



Jill P. Meyer

JPM:lje

3 East Fourth Street
Suite 200
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3728
phone 513.579.3175
fax 513.579.3101
jill.meyer@cincinnati-chamber.com



3 East Fourth Street
Suite 301
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3728
P 513.562.8474
www.REDICincinnati.com

August 16, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Welbes,

I am writing on behalf of the Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Cincinnati to express support for the grant application submitted by the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA). This application was submitted in partnership with Miami University; the City of Oxford, Ohio; and the Talawanda School District for the Department of Transportation's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program.

REDI Cincinnati is consistently recognized among the top economic development organizations in the nation. Its primary focus is creating jobs in Greater Cincinnati by attracting businesses to the region and supporting growth of existing organizations. With that charge, REDI Cincinnati is uniquely positioned to understand critical factors influencing company leaders' decision to relocate or expand.

The Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride has bus facilities and office space for BCRTA and the Talawanda School District in addition to fueling, vehicle washing and covered storage for Miami University and the City of Oxford. The project will also include bike parking/storage, indoor waiting areas and restrooms for passengers. Most notably, the facility would be a true multimodal venue able to serve passengers of BCRTA, interurban bus services and the proposed adjacent Amtrak platform in addition to local private vehicle commuters and bike riders.

Without access to strategically placed transportation facilities that connect eastern and western Butler County, employers in the area are having difficulty filling jobs, ensuring a diverse workforce and are experiencing high workforce turnover. Construction of the proposed intermodal shared services facility will connect workers to jobs, and it will serve as an economic boost to the region.

I encourage the Federal Transit Administration to give its sincere consideration to this collaboration which is expected to bring new economic vitality to western Butler County and can serve as a nation model for rural transit. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (513) 562-8474 or JReeder@REDICincinnati.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Johnna Reeder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Johnna" being more prominent than the last name "Reeder".

Johnna Reeder
President & CEO
REDI Cincinnati

Two large, overlapping arcs at the bottom of the page. The larger one is light blue and the smaller one is red, both curving from the left towards the right.

@GrowCincyUSA
/REDICincinnati
REDICincinnati

BUTLER COUNTY
Board of
**DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES**
*Empowering People.
Enhancing Possibilities.*

August 14, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Welbes,

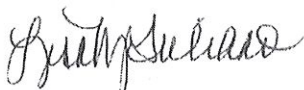
As the Superintendent of the Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities, I am writing in strong support of the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Section 5339 Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program. This grant will allow for the construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by connecting eastern Butler County to the City of Oxford and Miami University.

One of the biggest barriers faced by individuals served by our agency is a lack of transportation to jobs and other community activities. Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real jobs to areas in need of employment opportunities that will serve as a vital economic boost to this rural area by connecting Butler County to employers in the area including the region's largest employer, Miami University.

BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system has in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability throughout the region. This project will create transformational change by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities and encourage automobile drivers to park their cars and endorse alternate modes of travel.

Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities strongly encourages your favorable consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,



Lisa Guliano
Superintendent

August 11, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Welbes:

On behalf of the Butler County Visitors Bureau I am writing to express strong support for the Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride application submitted by the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford and the Talawanda School District for the Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program.

Tourism is a more than \$1 billion industry in Butler County and in particular Miami University is a major driver of visitors and students to our county. Having a quality and accessible transportation network is paramount in welcoming and supporting the visitors to the county as well as making other cities in our county easily accessible.

The plan submitted by the BCRTA presents a viable solution to the significant transportation and parking needs currently experienced in Oxford and the County. However more importantly the plan will wholeheartedly enhance the experience of visitors that will lead to more visitors and subsequent economic benefit.

The Butler County Visitors Bureau strongly encourages a favorable consideration of this application. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (513) 602-4443 and/or mhecquet@GetToTheBC.com.

Sincerely,



Mark Hecquet
Executive Director
Butler County Visitors Bureau





August 16, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Welbes,

I write to express Enjoy Oxford's strong support for the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program. This grant will allow for the construction of multimodal facilities that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by creating infrastructure that does not exist today to connect eastern Butler County to the City of Oxford and Miami University.

Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real jobs to areas in need of employment opportunities that will serve as a vital economic boost to this rural area by connecting Butler County to employers in the area including the region's largest employer, Miami University. BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system has in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability throughout the region. This project will create transformational change by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities and encourage automobile drivers to park their cars and endorse alternate modes of travel.

Creating a multi-modal transit center in the heart of our community will transform the way we address transportation in our community. This transit center will host an Amtrak stop, bus facility, and in the future, connect to our multi use bike/pedestrian trail.

We strongly urge your favorable consideration of this grant application. If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact me at 513-523-8687.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jessica Greene", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Jessica Greene
Executive Director



MIDDLETOWN

August 11, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

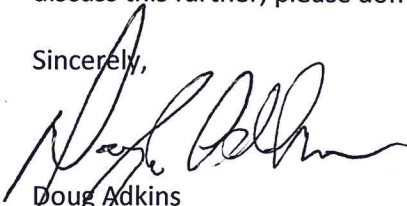
Dear Administrator Welbes,

Hello. I hope this finds you well. I write to express The City of Middletown's strong support for the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Department of Transportation's the Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program. This grant will allow the Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride (see attached). This project includes bus facilities and office space for BCRTA and the Talawanda School District in addition to fueling, vehicle washing, and covered storage for Miami University and the City of Oxford. Other passenger amenities of the project include bike parking/storage and indoor waiting areas and restrooms for passengers. Most notably, the facility would be a true multimodal venue able to serve passengers of BCRTA, interurban bus services, and the proposed adjacent Amtrak platform in addition to local private vehicle commuters and bike riders.

Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real jobs to areas in need of employment opportunities, like Middletown, that will serve as a vital economic boost to these areas by connecting Butler County to employers in the area including the region's largest employer, Miami University. BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system has in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability throughout the region. This project will create transformational change by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities and encourage automobile drivers to park their cars and endorse alternate modes of travel.

The City of Middletown, Ohio strongly urges your favorable consideration of this grant application. If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact me at douga@cityofmiddletown.org.

Sincerely,



Doug Adkins
City Manager

DA/nb

Cc: Kyle Fuchs, Director of Community Revitalization
File



August 11, 2017

Administrator Matthew Welbes
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: TIGER grant application

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Trenton understands that the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) is applying for TIGER funding through the U. S. Department of Transportation under the Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Program for a portion of the Butler County Connect project, the **Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park and Ride**. This will enhance public transportation in the City of Oxford and the Oxford campus of Miami University, with shared maintenance facilities and intermodal passenger facilities that include Amtrak.

The continued success of Miami and the Oxford area are critical to the long-term economic health of Butler County and southwest Ohio, and transportation improvements to be funded with the grant will support this. In addition, BCRTA service is provided to Trenton and a number of Trenton residents use it to commute to the Oxford campus. Transit service continues to be an asset in Trenton, not only for those specifically travelling to Miami campuses, but to other job, school and shopping destinations.

The City of Trenton supports this TIGER grant application that will benefit the BCRTA, the City of Oxford, Miami University, the Talawanda School district, and Amtrak.

Sincerely,



John J. Jones, City Manager

PC: Matthew Dutkevicz