SHERROD BROWN

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

**FINANCE** 

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

April 21, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As the Department of Transportation considers applications for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants, I would like to bring your attention to a proposal submitted by the Butler County (Ohio) Regional Transit Authority in partnership with the City of Oxford, Miami University, and the Talawanda School District.

The Butler County proposal includes plans to build intermodal facilities to promote rural transit and economic opportunity by connecting eastern Butler County to the City of Oxford and Miami University in rural western Butler County. Affordable transportation options would make it possible for employers, including the region's largest employer Miami University, to fill a number of jobs and ensure a diverse workforce. The proposed intermodal facilities are designed to connect people to jobs and serve as a vital economic boost to this rural area.

In addition to promoting economic opportunity in Butler County, the proposed intermodal facilities are designed to improve the region's environmental sustainability by promoting greater use of transit and cycling by residents, as well as quality of life and pedestrian safety.

This proposal deserves full and fair consideration. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact Stuart Zorn of my staff at <a href="mailto:stuart\_zorn@brown.senate.gov">stuart\_zorn@brown.senate.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown United States Senator

SB:sgz

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE

HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

April 15, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write to bring to your attention the competitive grant application submitted by the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) in partnership with Miami University and the City of Oxford, Ohio for funding in the FY16 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.

I understand BCRTA seeks assistance for the construction of intermodal facilities 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.

In addition to its value in promoting economic opportunity in Butler County, construction of the proposed intermodal facilities will improve the area's environmental sustainability, quality of life, and pedestrian safety in and around the City of Oxford and Miami University's campus. By providing low cost transportation options that link the labor force with employment opportunities, Butler County's project could serve as a model to other rural areas.

Please give all due consideration to this request. If there are any questions, please contact my grant coordinator, Linda Greenwood, at (419) 259-3895. Thank you.

Sincerely

Rob Portman

United States Senator

### **Butler County**

6959 Rock Springs Drive Liberty Township, Ohio 45011

### **Columbus**

Riffe Center 11<sup>th</sup> Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 466-8550 Rep52@ohiohouse.gov



## Margaret K. Conditt

State Representative 52<sup>nd</sup> Ohio House District

**Committees** 

Community and Family Advancement

Community and Family Advancement Subcommittee on Minority Affairs

Judiciary

Local Government

**Public Utilities** 

April 15, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to you to respectfully ask for your favorable consideration 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 Department of Transportation's TIGER program.

This grant will allow for the construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by connecting Butler County to the City of Oxford and the county's largest employer, Miami University. BCRTA and their partners, by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation, will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system has in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability for our friends and neighbors.

I strongly urge your favorable consideration of this grant application. The grant will be a vital resource to the hard working citizens of southwest Ohio. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-466-8550 or <a href="Rep52@ohiohouse.gov">Rep52@ohiohouse.gov</a>.

Thank you for your consideration!

largaret K. Conditt

With Kind Regards,

Margaret K. Conditt State Representative 52<sup>nd</sup> House District

#### Committees

Community and Family Advancement, Chair Finance & Appropriations Government Accountability and Oversight Education

53rd House District

Parts of Butler County

**Columbus Office** 

Vern Riffe Center, 12th Floor (614) 644-5094 phone (614) 719-6953 fax District53@ohiohouse.gov

## Tim Derickson

### State Representative, District 53

April 17, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

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 Department of Transportation's TIGER 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.

Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real, sustainable jobs to mostly rural areas in need of employment and 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 can bring to a rural area in order to boost employment opportunities, enhance the standard of living, create sustainable jobs, and form productive families and communities throughout the region. This project will bring transformational change by providing non-existent infrastructure for low-cost transportation options that link the labor force to employment opportunities and encourage automobile drivers to park their cars and embrace alternate modes of travel.

As Chairman of the House Community and Family Advancement Committee, I strive to help Ohioans overcome those barriers which prevent them from leading productive and fulfilling lives, both in their households and in their communities; this program would enable them to do so. As such, I strongly urge your favorable consideration of this grant application. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (614) 644-5094 or Rep53@ohiohouse.gov.

Sincerely,

Tim Derickson State Representative 53<sup>rd</sup> Ohio House District



# Wes Retherford State Representative

April 26, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

We are contacting you in order to express our unwavering support for the grant application submitted by Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), in conjunction with Miami University, Talawanda School District, and the City of Oxford, Ohio for the Department of Transportation's TIGER program. A grant provided to this program would promote the construction of facilities that would foster economic growth and rural interaction by connecting the western portions of Butler County and Miami University.

By connecting Butler County with its largest employer, which is Miami University, the region would see a substantial boost in economic performance, as real jobs would finally be connected with a source in need of employment. This connection would henceforth result in economic increases in both regions, and would serve as an incredible economic stride for these largely rural communities.

The benefits of an efficient and reliable transit system in relation to the livelihood, opportunity, and prosperity of these rural communities would be demonstrated as both BCRTA and their partners evoke the full potential of the region. This process of linking jobs to employers, and bringing labor opportunities back to the rural regions of Butler County could then also serve as a model for the rejuvenation of other rural economies.

We whole heartily request your consideration of this grant application. If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact us at 614-644-6721.

Sincerely,

Wes Retherford State Representative

Ohio House District 51

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

**Contact Information:** 



William P. Coley, II State Senator 4th District

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

Committees:
Government Oversight and Reform - Chair
Civil Justice
Finance - Vice-Chair
Finance Subcommittee on Medicaid
Education
Rules and Reference

April 20th, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write to express my support for the grant application by Butler County Regional Transit Authority, in partnership with Miami University and the City of Oxford, Ohio for \$21 million from the Department of Transportation's TIGER program. This grant will allow for the construction of intermodal 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 Department of Transportation 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,

William P. Coley, II

State Senator

4<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District

WC/dh



# BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 12, 2016

Secretary Anthony Foxx US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

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 \$25 million from the Department of Transportation's TIGER program.

BCRTA seeks assistance for the construction of intermodal facilities 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. Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real jobs to areas in need of more 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 county's largest employer, Miami University.

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. BCRTA and their partners will demonstrate the value that a well-constructed transit system can have in a rural area to boost opportunity, livability, and sustainability.

We encourage the Department of Transportation to give its most sincere consideration to this grant application, to provide new economic opportunities to western Butler County and has the potential to serve as a model to the nation for rural transit. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (513) 887-3247 or Commissioners@ButlerCountyOhio.org.

Sincerely,

Cindy Carpenter, President

Don Dixon, Member

President



April 4, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

Hello, I trust this finds you well. 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 Department of Transportation's TIGER 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. Construction of the proposed facilities will connect Butler County residents to crucial 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. The project was "highly recommended" last year and this year's submittal includes some exciting updates to the project.

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.

If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact me at (513) 619-7687 or mpolicinski@oki.org.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Policinski Chief Executive Officer

Mosh R. Kolinghi

Kevin J. Lynch
President

Mark R. Policinski
CEO/Executive Director

720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 420 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 | Phone: 513.621.6300 | Fax: (513) 621-9325 | www.oki.org

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April 19, 2016

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

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

### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write 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 TIGER program.

Butler County Connect will allow for the construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic development opportunities by connecting urban eastern Butler County to the rural City of Oxford, Home of Miami University - Butler County's largest employer.

This grant includes an intermodal station, enhanced bus service, a parking hub, and improvements to biking and pedestrian amenities. The goal of Butler County Connect is to enhance access to jobs and education, as well as to ease traffic congestion, increase environmental sustainability and enhance community safety.

Without access to affordable transportation options to connect eastern and western Butler County, employers in the area are having difficulty filling jobs, ensuring a diverse workforce, and experiencing high-workforce turnover. Construction of the proposed intermodal facilities will therefore connect real jobs to the areas in need of more employment opportunities and serve as an economic boost to the region.

I encourage the Department of Transportation 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 (513) 579-3115 or <a href="mailto:IReeder@redicincinnati.com">IReeder@redicincinnati.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Johnna Reeder

President & CEO



April 22, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing to express my support for the grant application submitted by the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, in partnership with Miami University, the City of Oxford, Ohio, and the Talawanda School District for the Department of Transportation's TIGER program.

Butler County Connect will allow for the construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic development opportunities by connecting urban eastern Butler County to the rural City of Oxford, home of Miami University - Butler County's largest employer.

This project includes an intermodal station, enhanced bus service, a parking hub, and improvements to biking and pedestrian amenities. Butler County Connect's goal is to enhance access to jobs and education, as well as to ease traffic congestion, increase environmental sustainability and enhance community safety. Without access to affordable transportation options to connect eastern and western Butler County, employers in the area have difficulty filling jobs and ensuring a diverse workforce, and experience high workforce turnover.

The awarding of this grant could not only increase the market share of business development activity, but also expand the number of satisfied clients, create more jobs, and boost capital investment in the state.

I encourage the Department of Transportation to consider this 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 contact me at (614) 330-1150.

Sincerely,

John Minor

President & Chief Investment Officer



April 27, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write to express The Butler County Transportation Improvement District's strong support for the grant application being 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 TIGER 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.

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.

The BCTID's primary purpose is to foster local government cooperation and public private partnerships to link transportation improvements and economic development. Rural transit is an often overlooked but important piece of the transportation network in Butler County. The proposed Shriver Center Intermodal Transit Station is key to facilitating further development of BCRTA bus routes in western Butler County. These additional routes would benefit not only western Butler County residents, but also residents of the urban and economically distressed communities of Hamilton and in eastern Butler County, who could use them to access jobs available on Miami University's Oxford campus.

The BCTID 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 (513) 785-3452 or by email at dspinney@bctid.org.

Sincerely yours,

David L. Spinney

Director

**Butler County TID** 

April 20, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the Butler County Visitors Bureau I am writing to express strong support for the grant 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 Department of Transportation's TIGER 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 BCTRA 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 grant application. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (513) 602-442 and/or mhecquet@GetToTheBC.com.

Sincerely,

Mark Hecquet Executive Director

**Butler County Visitors Bureau** 

Nak Hecquet







Jill P. Meyer President & CEO

April 20, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

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 TIGER program.

Butler County Connect will allow for the construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic development opportunities by connecting urban eastern Butler County to the rural City of Oxford, Home of Miami University - Butler County's largest employer. The plan also addresses significant parking, transportation and storage issues that negatively affect the region.

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 facilitate regional citizens to reach work, educational institutions and other services throughout the Greater Cincinnati Region. In addition, the project calls for an elimination of duplicate centers for vehicle storage, repair, and fueling. This plan can reduce the costs of local and regional transportation, and allow for an efficient use and management of public transportation vehicles and routes that will better serve the surrounding communities.

I encourage the Department of Transportation 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.

Sincerely,

NII I. IVICYCI

JPM:lie

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



April 26, 2016

US Department of Transportation Mr. Anthony Foxx 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: TIGER Grant application

Dear Mr. Foxx:

Please accept this letter of support for this joint community project and TIGER grant application as we work toward transforming transportation in our community.

Like many college towns, we struggle with parking for our visitors and/or customers for our small businesses. The TIGER Grant proposal of creating an on-campus component and an off-campus component for the management of bus, car, bicycle and pedestrian interaction is a great solution to these multi-faceted topics.

Creating an on-campus multi-modal transit center in the heart of Miami's campus will transform the way we address transportation in our community. This transit center will allow visitors and guests an area for short term parking while at the same time, providing easy access to other forms of on-campus transportation; be this walking, biking or taking a BCRTA bus.

A major benefit to guests can be the creation of a park and ride model that will allow residents to our community to park on campus, yet ride the bus to explore our community. This will lead to a stronger economic impact from visitors for our locally owned businesses.

Miami University, Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Talawanda School District and the City of Oxford, are all working together toward a shared plan which is in the best interests of all the constituents of the community. We commend and applicate their efforts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelli Riggs, President

Oxford Chamber of Commerce



April 26, 2016

Butler County Regional Transit Authority C/OBCRTA 3045 Moser Court Hamilton, Ohio 45011

RE: TIGER Grant application

To Whom It May Concern:

On April 22, the Oxford Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) met and authorized this letter of support for BCRTA efforts to secure a TIGER Grant and in its efforts to improve public transportation options in our community.

There is no question; the town of Oxford, Ohio and the campus of Miami University have issues and conflicts between vehicles, parking, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. The TIGER Grant proposal of creating an on-campus component and an off-campus component for the management of bus, car, bicycle and pedestrian interaction seems to be a great solution to these multi-faceted topics.

Creating an on-campus multi-modal transit center in the heart of Miami's campus will assist with transportation issues in so many ways. This transit center will allow visitors and guests an area for short term parking while at the same time, providing easy access to other forms of on-campus transportation; be this walking, biking or taking a BCRTA bus.

One benefit of the proposed off-campus component is the creation of a shared bus maintenance, fueling and storage facility. This will allow BCRTA and the Talawanda School District to not only save considerable funds; it will also benefit the community in not having two separate bus maintenance facilities within the same community.

Other benefit of the proposed off-campus component is this component sets the table for the pending Amtrak platform which will be abutting this site. Future Amtrak riders will be able to walk across the street and access the multi-modal facilities.

The last benefit the Oxford CIC sees in this TIGER Grant is in rewarding multi-governmental agencies in their efforts to work together. Miami University, Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Talawanda School District and the City of Oxford, are all working together toward a shared plan which is in the best interests of all the constituents of the community. We commend and applaud their efforts.

Sincerely;

G. Alan Kyger

Oxford CIC Executive Director



April 26, 2016

US Department of Transportation Mr. Anthony Foxx 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

**RE**: TIGER Grant application

Dear Mr. Foxx:

Please accept this letter of support for this joint community project and TIGER grant application as we work toward transforming transportation in our community.

Like many small university towns, we struggle with parking for our guests, visitors and residents. The TIGER Grant proposal of creating an on-campus component and an off-campus component for the management of bus, car, bicycle and pedestrian interaction is a great solution to these multi-faceted topics.

Creating an on-campus multi-modal transit center in the heart of Miami's campus will transform the way we address transportation in our community. This transit center will allow visitors and guests an area for short term parking while at the same time, providing easy access to other forms of on-campus transportation; be this walking, biking or taking a BCRTA bus.

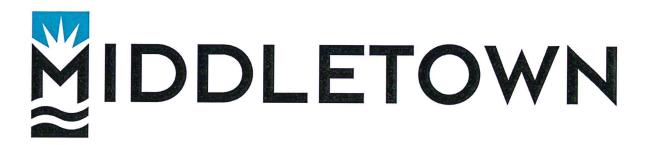
A major benefit to guests can be the creation of a park and ride model that will allow visitors to our community to park on campus, yet ride the bus to explore our community. This will lead to a stronger economic impact from visitors for our locally owned businesses.

Miami University, Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Talawanda School District and the City of Oxford, are all working together toward a shared plan which is in the best interests of all the constituents of the community. We commend and applicate their efforts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jessica Greene Executive Director



April 5, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

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 TIGER program. This grant will allow for construction of facilities that will promote rural transit and economic opportunity by connecting the City of Middletown and 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, 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.

Sincere

Doug Adkins City Manager

.

DA/nb

Cc: Kyle Fuchs, Director of Community Revitalization

File

#### **Central Administration**

282 N. Fair Avenue Hamilton, OH 45011



**T:** 513.785.2800 **F:** 513.820.5081

www.butlerdd.org

April 5, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

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 Department of Transportation's TIGER 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



P.O. Box 1322 Hamilton, OH 45012

Phone

(513) 868-9300

Fax

(513) 737-3889

Website www.selfhelps.org

Offices also in: Middletown West Chester Oxford

Jeffrey A. Diver Executive Director April 8, 2016

SUPPORTS TO ENCOURAGE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES Secretary Anthony Foxx U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express the strong support of Supports to Encourage Lowincome Families (SELF) 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 TIGER 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.

Construction of the proposed facilities will connect real jobs to areas in need of employment opportunities. It 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 its 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.

SELF is the Community Action Agency for Butler County, Ohio, serving nearly 7,000 families annually. SELF operates an employment program for low-income job seekers who critically need transportation to obtain and maintain employment.

SELF 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 (513) 820-5000. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Executive Director









April 4, 2016

Mr. Matthew Dutkevicz, Executive Director Butler County Regional Transit Authority 3045 Moser Court Hamilton, OH 45011

**RE: TIGER Grant Application** 

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Trenton understands that the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) is again applying for TIGER funding to the U. S. Department of Transportation, to enhance public transportation in the City of Oxford and the Oxford campus of Miami University, with shared service maintenance facilities and intermodal passenger facilities.

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 traveling to Miami campuses but to other job, school and shopping destinations.

The City of Trenton wishes to express its support for this TIGER Grant application filed by the BCRTA, the City of Oxford, Miami University and the Talawanda School District.

Sincerely,

John J. Jones, City Manager



OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES AND APPLIED SCIENCES

04/27/2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write to express Miami Regional'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 TIGER 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.

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.

The regional campuses have nearly one thousand students that take classes on each of the three campuses. This is made possible in great part to the partnership we enjoy with the BCRTA.

Miami University Regionals 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 (see below).

Sincerely,

### Christopher M. Connell

Christopher Connell, Senior Director of Administration, College of Professional Studies and Applied Sciences

Voice: (513) 785-3171 Fax: (513) 785-1903

Mail to: connelcm@miamioh.edu



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

Mosh R. Kolinishi

T.C. Rogers
President

Mark R. Policinski

CEC

720 E. Pete Rose Way, Suite 420 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 | Phone: 513.621.6300 | Fax: 513.621.9325 | www.oki.org

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# BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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,

Cindy Carpenter, Vice President

Don Dixon, Member



William P. Coley, II State Senator 4th District

## 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

August 16<sup>th</sup>, 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,

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,

Wes Retherford State Representative Ohio House District 51

**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 <a href="mailto:pitts@jobs-ohio.com">pitts@jobs-ohio.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Aaron Pitts

Senior Managing Director



Jill P. Meyer President & CEO

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,

∕ill P. Meyer

JPM:lje

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



3 East Fourth Street Suite 301 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3728 (7) 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,

Johnna Reeder President & CEO REDI Cincinnati

@GrowCincyUSA
(i) /REDICincinnati

REDICincinnati

282 N. Fair Avenue Hamilton, OH 45011

**BUTLER COUNTY** — Board of — **DEVELOPMENTAL** DISABILITIES

www.butlerdd.org

T: 513.785.2800

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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 BCTRA 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** 

York Hecquet







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,

Executive Director



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 <u>Chestnut Street Shared Services Facility and Regional Park & Ride</u> (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.

Sincerel

oug 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