

October 5, 2017



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

Dear Secretary Chao:

The purpose of this letter is to support the City of Kansas City, Missouri's 2017 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 2017) Grant Application. Visit KC, located at 1321 Baltimore Ave in Kansas City, partners with more than 1000 businesses across the region located at 1321 Baltimore Ave in Kansas City, Mo. to promote travel and tourism to Kansas City.

Connecting our Riverfront is a perfect example of a project that supports the long-term national goals that have been established by the TIGER grant program and by the call for Public Private Partnerships (P3) by the Trump Administration. In developing this project, the City has demonstrated a "can-do" attitude in its efforts to date and has been unwaveringly committed to an accelerated expansion of the successful 2016 RideKC Streetcar. The project's planning has been reliable, forward-thinking and comprehensive. Equally important, Port KC, the Kansas City Streetcar Authority and the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority have engaged the community in an honest, personal dialogue regarding its transit needs.

The Kansas City Streetcar Authority, Port Authority of Kansas City, MO (Port KC), and the grant applicant, the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, are teamed up and on schedule to deliver a half-mile extension of Kansas City's successful 2016 Streetcar Starter Line Operations by 2021.

Our community keeps growing and connectivity is a key component of that growth. As the largest tourism organization in the Kansas City region, we support this project which we believe it will positively impact our economy and our tourism future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature of Ronnie Burt, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Ronnie Burt
President & CEO