



211 N. Gear Avenue, Suite 100
West Burlington, Iowa 52655

Tel: 319.753.5107
Fax: 319.754.4763
Website: www.seirpc.com

April 29, 2016

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

RE: City of Burlington Downtown/Riverfront Revitalization Project – TIGER Funds

Dear Secretary Foxx,

On behalf of the City of Burlington, Iowa, I am writing in support of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant application for City of Burlington Downtown/Riverfront Revitalization Project. The City of Burlington is going through an all-inclusive effort to create a comprehensive, sustainable downtown community that better integrates economic prosperity, social vibrancy, ecological integrity, and human experiences.

The City of Burlington has been inundated by flood water in recent years with a series of record floods having been particularly damaging and costing millions of dollars in property damage, emergency protection cost, clean-up maintenance cost, and lost revenues. The City has been awarded \$26.2 million from the State of Iowa Flood Mitigation Board for Flood Protection. The City has also committed \$35.4 million in storm, sanitary, and road improvements. The City now has an opportunity to enhance the Downtown/Riverfront to be the "Front Door"; improving the Downtown to Riverfront connections, enhancing the connections from the Downtown/Riverfront to the Amtrak Train Depot, enhancing the connection for the River Cruise Lines/Boats to/from the Mississippi River.

These improvements will make the Downtown/Riverfront a destination, spurring more local and regional tourism and economic redevelopment in this area. The Complete Streets, Linear Multi-Use Path Park, and Gathering Area will lead to a more walkable, bikeable, livable, sustainable community.

I fully endorse their TIGER grant application and respectfully request that you give the City of Burlington Downtown/Riverfront Revitalization Project your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Norris
Executive Director

