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May 20, 2015

Attn: Transportation Secretary Anthony Fox
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

RE: City of Springfield TIGER Grant Application

Secretary Fox:

On behalf of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, I strongly encourage you to fund the request by the City of Springfield and the Oregon Department of Transportation for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for improvements to Franklin Boulevard in the Glenwood area of Springfield, Oregon. This project and the redevelopment envisioned for the Glenwood area is a high priority for the Springfield business community. The Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce has been immersed in all things transportation for years in Springfield. We have supported economic growth and quality of life for many years through quality transportation planning and construction.

More specifically, the Chamber has been an active voice in the process to redefine the Glenwood area as an innovative and mixed-use neighborhood, creating an environment for businesses to thrive. The Glenwood redevelopment area is THE prime opportunity location for economic redevelopment and job creation in our Springfield and Eugene metro area, and it has the potential to be a thriving economic engine for the entire region.

To reach that potential, Franklin Boulevard, Glenwood's primary corridor, must be upgraded significantly. This project would create a multi-way boulevard - an innovative concept which allows for convenient movement of through traffic while also creating a high level of access to adjacent businesses and the envisioned redevelopment areas.

This TIGER grant application is strongly supported by the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. Please consider my recommendation to support this important collaborative transportation project and award this TIGER grant to this community.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Egan", is written over a circular scribble.

Dan Egan, Executive Director
Springfield Chamber of Commerce