



April 24, 2014

Secretary Foxx
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to affirm the commitment of the Baltimore City Department of Transportation to meet the matching fund obligations as described in our application for TIGER VI funding of the Hanover Street Bridge Replacement Study (HSBRS). The City is committed to providing \$600,000 of County Transportation Bond funds as well as \$100,000 in Traffic Impact Study funds in support of the project.

The HSBRS will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, regional competitiveness, and economic development within the communities of South Baltimore. The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) has over the past five years completed foundational studies for traffic management in the impact zone of the Hanover Street Bridge. Within the project limits, HSBRS will:

- Study capacity, safety, lane use controls, roundabouts, pedestrian and bicycle accommodations
- A new bridge would ensure safe passage along the Hanover Street corridor for decades.
- This is a crucial link for local and regional users. It is important for local users traveling between Cherry Hill and points south, Federal Hill/Downtown Baltimore and points north, and I-95. This is also a vital route for regional commerce and Baltimore's booming ports.
- The enhanced bridge would improve connectivity between existing transit services including MTA bus, Light Rail, Charm City Circulator, and more.
- A multi-modal bridge replacement would link existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian trail systems including the Middle Branch arm of the Gwynns Falls, Jones Falls and Masonville trails.
- ADA-accessible sidewalks would establish a safer and more comfortable pedestrian experience.
- A major investment in infrastructure such as the bridge replacement project shows a larger commitment to the City and its residents. This often fosters more redevelopment and reinvestment opportunities.

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for the HSBRS receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William M. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William M. Johnson
Director

cc: Valorie Lacour, DOT