





## **Appendix A: Letters of Support**



April 26, 2016

Larry Hogan Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford Lt. Governor

Pete K. Rahn Secretary

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary United States Department of Transportation East Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) strongly supports the Maryland application to the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for North Avenue Rising: Increasing Economic Activity Through Multimodal Investments in Baltimore. MDOT has committed \$10 million to this key project and appreciates your strong consideration of this application.

The North Avenue Rising project plays a vital role in Baltimore as a transportation corridor that connects historic neighborhoods, employment centers, and cultural and educational institutions across the City. North Avenue is traversed by Baltimore's second busiest bus line, carrying nearly four million passengers annually and is one of the few roadways that connect the Maryland Transit Administration's (MTA) Metro Subway and Light Rail transit systems. It is also a City-designated freight corridor that serves as a significant east-west connector.

The improvements include dedicated transit lanes, transit transfer centers, sidewalk improvements, bike share stations, and an upgraded rail station, which will improve transit, bicycling, and walking along North Avenue. Once completed, North Avenue Rising will serve as a catalyst for economic development connecting residents to jobs and building on the educational anchors. These improvements highlight the important partnerships between MDOT's business units and local jurisdictions.

Honorable Anthony Foxx Page Two

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Curtis Johnson, MDOT, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, Policy Analyst, at 410-865-1098, toll free at 888-713-1414, or via email at cjohnson32@mdot.state.md.us. Of course, you may always contact me directly.

Sincerely,

R. Earl Lewis, Jr.

R El Serie /

**Deputy Secretary** 

cc: Mr. Curtis Johnson, Policy Analyst, Office of Planning and Capital Programming,

**MDOT** 



#### STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE MAYOR

100 Holliday Street, Room 250 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 18, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey my strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. I am committed to the revitalization of Baltimore City and believe this program can significantly impact the region.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for my constituents and the broader Baltimore community.

I look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon my ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City. I hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant.

If you need any further assistance, please contact Ms. Lindsay Wines, Deputy Director, Baltimore City Department of Transportation, at 410-396-6802 or at Lindsay. Wines@baltimorecity.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rawlings-Bla

Mayor

City of Baltimore

cc: Kaliope Parthemos, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Andrew Smullian, Deputy Mayor, Government Relations & Labor

Khalil Zaied, Deputy Mayor, Operations

Lindsay Wines, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation



## STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE MAYOR

100 Holliday Street, Room 250 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 27, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

This letter is a follow-up to my April 18, 2016 letter in strong support of the MTA and Baltimore City North Avenue Rising TIGER Grant Application. I am committed to the revitalization of Baltimore City and believe this program can significantly impact the region.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for my constituents and the broader Baltimore community.

I look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon my ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City. The City of Baltimore has pledged to support the project with a match of \$1,000,000. This match is comprised of local funds that are dedicated to streetscaping along the route, improvements at the intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue and North Avenue, and for the Bikeshare program. I hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant.

If you need any further assistance, please contact Ms. Lindsay Wines, Deputy Director, Baltimore City Department of Transportation, at 410-396-6802 or at <a href="mailto:Lindsay.Wines@baltimorecity.gov">Lindsay.Wines@baltimorecity.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rawlings-Blak

Mayor

City of Baltimore

cc: Kaliope Parthemos, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Andrew Smullian, Deputy Mayor, Government Relations & Labor

Khalil Zaied, Deputy Mayor, Operations

Lindsay Wines, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation

phone: 410.396.3835 fax: 410.576.9425 email: mayor@baltimorecity.gov



City of Annapolis Mike Pantelides Mayor

Anne Arundel County Steve Schuh County Executive

City of Baltimore Stephanie Rawlings-Blake Mayor

> Baltimore County Kevin Kamenetz County Executive

Carroll County
Doug Howard
Member, Board of Commissioners

Harford County Barry Glassman County Executive

Howard County Allan H. Kittleman County Executive

Queen Anne's County Stephen Wilson County Executive

Maryland Department of Transportation
Pete Rahn
Secretary

Maryland Department of the Environment Ben Grumbles Secretary

Maryland Department of Planning David Craig Secretary

Maryland Transit Administration
Paul Comfort
Administrator

Offices @ McHenry Row 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300 Baltimore, MD 21230 Telephone 410-732-0500 Facsimile 410-732-8248 www.baltometro.org April 20, 2016

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

**Dear Secretary Foxx:** 

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB), the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, is pleased to offer its support to the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and the City of Baltimore for their Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application for the North Avenue Rising Program in Baltimore.

The BRTB is committed to adding all funds awarded under this competitive discretionary grant program to the Transportation Improvement Program immediately upon award. As you may be aware, it is our practice to add grant-funded projects to the TIP once funds become available.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The BRTB believes that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

The BRTB appreciates your favorable consideration of this application. It directly responds to the goals identified in the Baltimore region's long-range transportation plan as well as the goals of this program established under the FAST Act. We are committed to achieving U.S. DOT's long-term priorities for the nation's transportation system.

Sincerely,

Clive Graham, Empowered Chair

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LARRY HOGAN
Governor
BOYD K. RUTHERFORD
Lt. Governor
KENNETH C. HOLT
Secretary
ELLINGTON CHURCHILL, JR.
Deputy Secretary

April 27, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the strong support of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (the "Department") to the joint North Avenue Rising application of the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and Baltimore City to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Department has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City of Baltimore, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of the North Avenue corridor.

North Avenue is a key transportation corridor in Baltimore and the Department is committing significant grants and loans for revitalization along and near this corridor. North Avenue Rising will make possible critical investments infrastructure that support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of the Department believes that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our residents, businesses, visitors, and the broader community.

Over the course of the last five years the Department has invested nearly \$63 million in housing and community development projects in the North Avenue corridor (within ½ mile of North Avenue). The Department's investment in multifamily and neighborhood revitalization projects leveraged more than \$261 million in public and private funds.

The Department will be able to expand investment in Baltimore City, including along North Avenue through the Governor's recently announced \$75 million blight elimination initiative -- Project C.O.R.E. or Creating Opportunities for Renewal and Enterprise. There are key opportunities on and near North Avenue to demolish abandoned and derelict buildings to make way for new mixed-use and mixed-income development. There are also many opportunities to rehabilitate the many historic structures on North Avenue for small business development.

DHCD has a unique set of grant, loan and tax credit programs that will coordinate with, and contribute greatly to the infrastructure investments envisioned by North Avenue Rising. The Department looks forward to partnering with MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City.

I urge the United States Department of Transportation to join this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant, bringing new mobility, opportunity and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Holt

MACHOT.

Secretary





Larry Hogan, Governor Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor David R. Craig, Secretary Wendi W. Peters, Deputy Secretary

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the Maryland Department of Planning's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Our Department is encouraged that *North Avenue Rising* builds upon existing community comprehensive plans. We look forward to working with the MTA, Baltimore City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented through a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a key transportation corridor that connects historic neighborhoods, employment and cultural centers, and educational institutions across Baltimore City. *North Avenue Rising* will play a vital role in supporting transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy that will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it compliments Maryland's planning policies that support multimodal transportation and community revitalization. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-767-0901 or through email: <a href="mailto:stuart.sirota@maryland.gov">stuart.sirota@maryland.gov</a> with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely

Stuart Sirota, AICP

Assistant Secretary for Planning Services

#### CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



#### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Leana S. Wen, M.D., M.Sc. Commissioner of Health 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Baltimore City Health Department is pleased to support the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application for funding assistance to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. We are encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. We look forward to working with the MTA, our fellow Baltimore City agencies, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. We believe that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project, as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout the city. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant.

Sincerely,

Olivia D. Farrow, Esq.

Deputy Commissioner of Health

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI MARYLAND

COMMITTEES:

**APPROPRIATIONS** 

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

# United States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

April 26, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Your agency will soon be receiving a joint grant application from the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and Baltimore City – *North Avenue Rising* for funding consideration under the 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. I am writing to draw your attention to the merits of this application and to urge you to give it every appropriate consideration.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for my constituents and the broader Baltimore community.

As one of Baltimore City's representatives in Washington, DC I look forward to continuing to build upon my ongoing efforts to support the North Avenue corridor and the City throughout. I hope that USDOT joins the effort by awarding a 2016 TIGER grant to this project.

I very much appreciate your attention and your consideration of this matter. Please keep me posted as these grant awards are made.

Sincerely.

Barbara A. Mikulski United States Senator

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BAM:wbk

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO OFFICE INDICATED:

901 SOUTH BOND STREET, SUITE 310
BALTIMORE, MD 21231
(410) 962–4510
VOICE/TDD: (410) 962–4512

60 WEST STREET, SUITE 202 ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-2448 (410) 263-1805 BALTIMORE: (410) 269-1650

GREENBELT, MD 20770-1407 (301) 345-5517

32 WEST WASHINGTON STREET ROOM 203 HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740-4804 (301) 797-2826

THE PLAZA GALLERY BUILDING 212 MAIN STREET, SUITE 200 SALISBURY, MD 21801-2403 (410) 546-7711

#### BENJAMIN L. CARDIN MARYLAND

www.cardin.senate.gov

509 HART BUILDING

☐ WASHINGTON, DC 20510–2004
(202) 224–4524

## United States Senate

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS FINANCE FOREIGN RELATIONS SMALL BUSINESS

COMMITTEES:

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

TOWER 1, SUITE 1710 100 S. CHARLES STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21201 (410) 962-4436

April 19, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

It has come to my attention that the Maryland Transit Administration and Baltimore City have recently submitted a proposal for funding under the TIGER VIII grant program for the North Avenue Rising project.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. The North Avenue Rising project is a unique suite of proposed transportation investments intended to improve corridor and regional mobility and leverage such improvements with other City, State, and private development initiatives to revitalize the surrounding area. North Avenue Rising includes dedicated bus lanes, new bike facilities, enhancing MTA Metro and Light Rail stations, targeted improvements at major bus stops, improved sidewalks, streetscaping, and needed roadway re-pavement along the corridor. Such an investment in transit infrastructure will contribute to the North Avenue corridor's overall economic revitalization while improving opportunities for the broader Baltimore community.

I respectfully request that you give all due consideration to this application, in accordance with established policies and procedures. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin United States Senator

Benjamin L. Cardin

BLC:ab

ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

RANKING MEMBER, SELECT COMMITTEE ON BENGHAZI

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COAST
GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS

### Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

April 19, 2016

|  | WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2007                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|  | BALTIMORE, MD 21201-5037                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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|  | FAX: (410) 685-9399                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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|  | 754 FREDERICK ROAD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|  | CATONSVILLE, MD 21228-4504                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|  | (410) 719-8777                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|  | FAX: (410) 455-0110                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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|  | ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043-9903                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|  | (410) 465-8259                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|  | FAX: (410) 465-8740                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|  | www.cummings.house.gov                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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2230 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary, United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. I am committed to the revitalization of Baltimore City and believe implementation of the *North Avenue Rising* project can significantly improve mobility along Baltimore's North Avenue while also supporting the revitalization of a community that has experienced unrest and economic decay.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore. North Avenue is served by the MTA's second-busiest bus route, which carries nearly four million riders annually, and the road provides one of the few direct connections between Baltimore's Metro Subway and Light Rail transit systems. However, North Avenue has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades.

Through the *North Avenue Rising* project, the MTA and the City of Baltimore propose to make a suite of inter-related transportation investments to speed mobility along this corridor while spurring renewed economic growth. As part of the *North Avenue Rising* project, the MTA and the City of Baltimore propose creating dedicated bus lanes and installing Transit Signal Priority functions at key intersections. The MTA and the City of Baltimore also propose installing bus shelters at high-use bus stops, improving signage and streetscaping – including installing ADA-compliant curb ramps – and repaving the roadways to bring them to a state of good repair. The project would also include renovation of the platform and mezzanine levels of the Penn-North Metro Station and improvements at the North Avenue Light Rail Station.

The investments that would be implemented as part of the *North Avenue Rising* project are sorely needed, and I hope that the application submitted by the MTA and City of Baltimore to the TIGER program receive every reasonable consideration.

Sincerely,

Elijah E. Cummings Member of Congress

#### C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

REPLY To:

2416 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-3061 FAX: (202) 225-3094

375 WEST PADONIA ROAD, SUITE 200 TIMONIUM, MD 21093 (410) 628-2701 FAX: (410) 628-2708

www.dutch.house.gov

#### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

DEFENSE
STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS

### Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515—2002

April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey my strong support for the Maryland Transit Administration and Baltimore City's application for 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funding for the North Avenue Rising project. This project will revitalize an underserved area of Baltimore City, leading to significant private investment and growth in the region.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore, but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. Grant funding will be dedicated to designing a streetscape connecting long-standing institutions such as Coppin State University, University of Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University, and an emerging arts district. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for my constituents and the broader Baltimore community.

As one of Baltimore City's representatives in Congress, I recognize this revitalization as a vital investment to create jobs, promote small business, and increase public safety. I hope the U.S. Department of Transportation joins the effort by awarding a 2016 TIGER grant to this project. If you have any questions, feel free to contact David Heitlinger, of my staff, at 202-225-3061.

Sincerely,

B - 11

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger

Member of Congress

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2444 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-4016 FAX: (202) 225-9219

### Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington. **BC** 20515-2003

www.sarbanes.house.gov

April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey my support for the joint application by the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and Baltimore City to the US Department of Transportation's 2016 TIGER VIII grant program. MTA and Baltimore City's program, *North Avenue Rising*, will build on the potential in this corridor and add to the revitalization of Baltimore City.

North Avenue has a unique place in Baltimore as a transportation corridor connecting historic neighborhoods, employment centers and cultural and educational institutions. It carries one of the City's busiest bus lines, serving nearly 4 million passengers each year, and it provides one of the few connections between MTA's Metro Subway and Light Rail transit systems. But despite its importance and potential, North Avenue has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. The joint proposal by MTA and Baltimore City marks a renewed commitment to this corridor, with dedicated bus lanes, new bike facilities, enhanced MTA Metro and Light Rail stations, repaved streets and improved sidewalks. These infrastructure investments will contribute to the overall economic revitalization of North Avenue and the broader Baltimore community.

I ask that you provide all appropriate consideration for the MTA and Baltimore City's application to the US Department of Transportation's FY 2016 TIGER VIII program.

Sincerely,

John P. Sarbanes

Member of Congress

## SHIRLEY NATHAN-PULLIAM Legislative District 44 Baltimore City and Baltimore County

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee



Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 304
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3612 - 301-858-3612
800-492-7122 Ext. 3612
Fax 410-841-3613 - 301-858-3613
Shirley,Nathan,Pulliam@senate.state,md.us

District Office

4200 Edmondson Avenue, Suite 103

Baltimore, Maryland 21229 410-947-7050 · Fax 410-947-7052

April 26, 2016

## THE SENATE OF MARYLAND ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey my strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.

As a Senator representing Baltimore I can attest to the essential nature of transportation projects like North Avenue Rising. Economically and developmentally, these projects are a major component to improving the condition of Baltimore for businesses and residents. Investing in badly needed transportation improvements creates opportunity and will improve the health and welfare of everyone.

I am so hopeful that USDOT will become involved with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. It would be hard to overstate the great impact you can make here. Should you with to contact me (410-947-7050), I am at your disposal to discuss any of these issues.

Sincerely,

Shirley Nathan-Pulliam

Shirley Fulliam

Senator

DANA M. STEIN

Legislative District 11

Baltimore County

Vice Chair
Environment and Transportation
Committee

Subcommittees
Motor Vehicles and Transportation

Chair, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Open Space



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 251
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3527 · 301-858-3527
800-492-7122 Ext. 3527
Fax 410-841-3509 · 301-858-3509
Dana.Stein@house.state.md.us

# The Maryland House of Delegates Annapolis, Maryland 21401

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey my strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. I am committed to the revitalization of Baltimore City and believe this program can significantly impact the region.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for the entire Baltimore region.

I look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project. I hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-841-3527 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Dana Stein Delegate

on Atu

District 11

Mary L. Washington, Ph.D Legislative District 43 Baltimore City

Ways and Means Committee



Annapolis Office
The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 429
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
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Mary.Washington@house.state.md.us

District Office 3200 Barclay Street Baltimore, Maryland 21218 410-235-2707

## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

April 27, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey my strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. I am committed to the revitalization of Baltimore City and believe this program can significantly impact the region.

North Avenue plays a unique role as a transportation corridor in Baltimore but has suffered from disinvestment over the past decades. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for my constituents and the broader Baltimore community.

I look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon my ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City. I hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-235-2707 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Delegate Mary L. Washington

43rd Legislative District, Maryland General Assembly

CORY V. McCray Legislative District 45 Baltimore City

Environment and Transportation Committee

Housing and Real
Property Subcommittee

Land Use and Ethics Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen Street, Room 315 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3486 · 301-858-3486 800-492-7122 Ext. 3486 Cory.McCray@house.state.md.us

## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write you today in support of the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The revitalization of Baltimore City is a paramount concern to me, and I believe that this program will significantly impact the region.

North Avenue is a critical transportation corridor in Baltimore City. Unfortunately, the corridor has suffered from disinvestment spanning decades. An investment in infrastructure supporting transit, walking, and bicycling will contribute to the corridor's overall economic revitalization, improving opportunities for my constituents and the broader Baltimore community.

Moving forward, I will continue to partner with the MT and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project. I hope that USDOT joins the effort by awarding a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (410) 841-3486 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Cory McCray State Delegate



April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Coppin State University's strong support for, and financial commitment to, the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Coppin State University has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City of Baltimore, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Coppin State University believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our students, staff, visitors, and the broader community.

Over the course of the last 10 years Coppin State University has invested \$211 million in construction of school facilities in the North Avenue corridor and we are planning another \$40 million in other capital investments in the corridor over the next 5 years. We believe that the project will not only have a demonstrable benefit for our campus but will complement our significant investments in the community.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-951-3838 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Maria Thompson, Ph.D.

President



April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

RE: North Avenue Rising

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Johns Hopkins University strongly supports the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City "North Avenue Rising" application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.

As Baltimore City's largest private sector employer, Johns Hopkins works with its partners at MTA, city and state government and community organizations to strengthen neighborhoods and expand opportunity. In 2012, Johns Hopkins launched a comprehensive strategy to improve quality of life and place in ten neighborhoods, including two through which North Avenue passes. Johns Hopkins has moved its graduate student film and media studies program off campus and into two historic North Avenue buildings, supporting \$40 million of transformative private redevelopment.

North Avenue plays a unique role in Baltimore as a transportation corridor, yet it lacks the infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling. North Avenue Rising will improve transportation and job opportunities across the entire community by attracting private investment in impactful, high density, transit oriented development. The North Avenue communities are served by Amtrak, Light Rail, Charm City Circulator, buses, MARC, and Johns Hopkins transit which carries two million passengers annually.

The vision for North Avenue today is supported by an extraordinary collection of community groups, institutions, non-profits, and businesses. The shared vision and collective effort of these groups has produced tremendous outcomes. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Should you have any questions, please contact my special advisor on economic development, Andrew Frank, at 410-516-0043, <a href="mailto:andy-frank@jhu.edu">andy-frank@jhu.edu</a>.

Danilo

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Daniels

President

cc: Andrew Frank

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Maryland Institute College of Art's (MICA) strong support for, and commitment to, the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. MICA has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City of Baltimore, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

MICA has long recognized the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership at MICA believed more than 20 years ago, that North Avenue was an opportunity for the College to move forward with an innovative campus master plan that would support the growth of the College. MICA is proud of our campus development along North Avenue, and we understand that MICA is one of the largest property owners along this historic route. We believe *North Avenue Rising* will not only cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our students, faculty, staff, visitors, and the broader community whom we are deeply engaged, but to create new access and economic opportunities for many residents whose communities have disconnected and disenfranchised, partly because of North Avenue.

Over the course of the last 15 years MICA has invested \$46.3 million in construction of institutional facilities and residence halls in the North Avenue corridor and we are planning another \$400,000 in other capital investments within the corridor over the next year. As a sign of our support for *North Avenue Rising*, we are also committing to leveraging our financial and creative design support towards the project. We believe that this project will not only have a demonstrable benefit for our campus, but will complement our significant investments within the community and to influence additional development in Central West Baltimore. We believe the talent of art and design solutions to reimagine North Avenue will create a new excitement of opportunity for many.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-225-2237 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to all residents and businesses along North Avenue.

Sincerely.

Michael Mol

Vice President, Strategic Initiatives

Board of Directors:

Central Maryland Transportation Alliance

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August "Augie" Chiasera President, M&T Bank, Greater Baltimore/Chesapeake

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Walter D. Pinkard, Jr Chairman Emeritus, Americas, DTZ

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Executive Vice President, Rosemore, Inc.

J. Thomas Sadowski
President and CEO, Economic Alliance of
Greater Baltimore

**Dru Schmidt-Perkins**Executive Director, 1000 Friends of Maryland

Laurie Schwartz
President, Waterfront Partnership of
Baltimore, Inc.

Jane Shaab Executive Director UM BioPark, University of Maryland, Baltimore

Greg Smith
Associate Director of Transportation
Services, The Johns Hopkins University

Scot Spencer Assoc. Dir. for Advocacy & Influence, The Annie E. Casey Foundation

C. William "Bill" Struever Managing Director, Cross Street Partners

H. Walter Townshend, III President and CEO, Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber

Thomas E. Wilcox President and CEO, Baltimore



April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Happy Earth Day. I am writing to convey the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the US DOT's 2016 TIGER program. The Transportation Alliance works to bring about transportation projects that improve the economy, public health, environment and quality of life in the greater Baltimore region. We see strategic transportation investments as critical and necessary to the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore. It is served by Baltimore's second busiest bus line and intersected by the Metro subway, the Central light rail and the busiest lines in both the MTA and the Charm City Circulator bus networks. North Avenue is the focal point of the burgeoning Station North Arts and Entertainment District and numerous State, City, institutional and community revitalization investments and strategies. It is an important eastwest corridor in the MTA's BaltimoreLink plan, a comprehensive update of its network of bus routes. For all these reasons it makes perfect sense to invest in infrastructure to make North Avenue work better for transit, walking and bicycling. The leadership of the Transportation Alliance believes that *North Avenue Rising* will improve access and opportunities for communities along this key transportation corridor.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon and enhances many ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER

Central Maryland Transportation Alliance | 2 East Read Street, Baltimore MD 21202 | www.cmtalliance.org | (410) 332-4172

grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-332-4172 or <u>bomalley@cmtalliance.org</u> with any questions about our support for the *North Avenue Rising* project.

Sincerely,

Brian O'Malley

President & CEO



April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Transit Choices strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Transit Choices has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Transit Choices believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-340-4878 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

James W. Rouse, Jr.

Founding Member



April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey our strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Barclay, Midway, Old Goucher Coalition (BMOG) has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of BMOG believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 443-694-8740 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely.

Ms. Constance Ross

Chairperson, Barclay, Midway, Old Goucher Coalition (BMOG)

2304 Barclay Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21218

Instance E. Ross



April 21, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the Central Baltimore Partnership's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Central Baltimore Partnership has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Central Baltimore.

North Avenue is the key east-west route through Central Baltimore. It's rejuvenation has been a catalyst for investment in the surrounding areas, including from prospective homebuyers, business owners, nonprofits and institutions looking to locate or expand here. North Avenue transit access, walkability, bike-ability and improved vehicular circulation are essential components of the continued renaissance of Central Baltimore. The Central Baltimore Partnership and our partners, including Johns Hopkins University, Maryland Institute College of Art and the University of Baltimore, and nearly 100 neighborhood associations, businesses and nonprofits, and public agencies, wholeheartedly endorse *North Avenue Rising*.

We look forward to working with MTA and Baltimore City to realize this very promising initiative. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-702-5172 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely

Ellen Janes

Executive Director

## CHARLES STREET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

#### **Board of Directors**

Gene-Michael Addis David Ashton Doreen Bolger Anthony S. Brandon Fred Bronstein Howard Brown Lucy Campbell Mark Caplan Kelly Cross Darlene Davis John Day Frank Dittenhafer II Don Donahue Robert Embry, Jr. Daniel Ennis Jennifer Erickson J. Kirby Fowler, Jr. Andy Frank David M. Funk C. Richard Gamper, Jr. Alan Garten Steven Gondol Kingdon Gould, Jr. Barry Greenberg Alexander Gross Walld Hajj Brooke Hall Terri Harrington Mark Heishman Lance Hoboy Ken Jones Larry Kamanitz Mark Keener Richard Larison **Brad Londy** Bruce Loololan Archbishop William Lori Aileen Mackall Father Tom Malia Julia Marciari-Alexander Hans Mayer Kristen McGuire Ellen Janes David Morris Ed Myers Tom Noonan Kaliope Parthemos Trudy Perkins Brett Plano Eugene Povemi Chris Regar. Dennis Richter J. Michael Riley Russ Robertson Chris Rockey Frank B. Rosenberg Michael Rudolph Walter Schamu Brad Shapiro Michael Shecter Steve Shen Karen Stokes Jeff Taylor J. Richard Thomas, Jr. Bryce Turner Emst Valery

April 26, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Charles Street Development Corporation's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Charles Street Development Corporation is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Charles Street Development Corporation believes that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-659-7767 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Kristin Speaker
Executive Director

Justin Verner Wade Walters

Joe Ward

## Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation's (CHMCC) strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. CHMCC has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. For more than a quarter century, CHMCC has been working to improve the quality of life for our community, involving low income residents in the decisions and programs that affect their community and providing a variety of supportive services. CHMCC The leadership of CHMCC believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-235-6715 or chmc.corp@verizon.net with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Mark Washington

Mary Washingto

**Executive Director** 

CHMCC
3220-A The Alameda
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 410.235.6715 Fax: 410.235.1745
Chmc.corp@verizon.net www.liveinchum.org



April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation's (CHCDC) strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The CHCDC is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of CHCDC believes that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 443-759-5803 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely.

Dr. Gary D. Rodwell

**Executive Director** 







The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Darley Park Community Association's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Darley Park Community Association is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Darley Park Community Association believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-382-6073 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Pauline Charles

anline Charles

President



April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S. E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing this letter of support in regards to the joint Maryland Transit Administration and the City of Baltimore, United States Department of Transportation TIGER application to fund the North Avenue Rising Project.

North Avenue is a very important transportation corridor in the City of Baltimore that needs this funding to help repair infrastructure improvements and the flow of transit in this very busy transportation corridor.

The North Avenue Rising Project will leverage the Federal investment from the State of Maryland and City Baltimore that will have a greater impact to revitalize this transportation corridor.

The North Avenue Rising Project will engage the residents and neighborhood organizations like Druid Heights CDC to coordinate this agency's redevelopment plans in a more effective way with governmental agencies.

Once again, Druid Heights CDC is proud to support this joint TIGER application. If you need additional input from our agency, Please, feel free to contact me by email, <a href="mailto:Rjohnson@druidheights.com">Rjohnson@druidheights.com</a> or by telephone at 410-523-1350.

Sincerely,

Roscoe Johnson, III Executive Director

### "Rebuilding the Front Door to East Baltimore"

5719 York Road Baltimore, Maryland 21212 410-435-0500

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey The East North Avenue Community Development Corporation's (ENA CDC) strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. ENA CDC has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

For too long North Avenue, the only major East/West corridor in Baltimore has been ignored as an asset to the city's growth and prosperity. We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of ENA CDC believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 443-392-1349 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely

Erich W. March

Thick to March

President



Greater Greenmount Community Association, Inc. 417 E North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202

April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The two neighborhoods, Barclay and East Baltimore/Midway, that Greater Greenmount Community Association (GGCA) represents, have North Avenue as their southern border. As such the improvement to North Avenue is of strategic importance to the continued revitalization of our communities after years of disinvestment.

But North Avenue is important not only to the communities of Barclay and East Baltimore/Midway; it is also important to Baltimore City as a whole. A 2016 TIGER grant will support our vision of North Avenue as a corridor that revitalizes neighborhoods by providing a range of transportation options including transit, walking and bicycling that are efficient, reliable and environmentally sustainable.

GGCA strongly supports the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the TIGER program. We have worked with both the MTA and Baltimore City Department of Transportation in recent years to develop plans that are practical, strategic, address the current condition of North Avenue and take advantage of the unique strengths of the North Avenue corridor. GGCA looks forward to continuing to work with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We ask that USDOT joins our existing efforts with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. If you have any questions I can be reached at 410.294.6822.

Sincerely, Linda Johnson

President

Greater Greenmount Community Association, Inc.



#### **Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council**

2401 Liberty Heights Avenue, Suite 1026 ♦ Baltimore, MD 21215 Phone: 410- 523-4500 Fax: 410-523-4527

Email - Office@greatermondamin.org - www.greatermondawmin.org

April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### **Officers**

President Jacqueline Caldwell

#### **Board of Directors**

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#### Community-at-Large

Dr. Gary Rodwell Beatrice Broadway Nathaniel Freeman

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of the Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-523-4500 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline I. Caldwell

gulin Jelbell.

President

### The Historic Marble Hill Community Association

1507 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21217



April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey (community group)'s strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Historic Marble Hill Community is encouraged that this effort is in line with existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month except August, at 6:30 PM, at the Druid Hill YMCA. Please feel free to come and talk with us.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of the Historic Marble Hill Community The Association hopes that North Avenue Rising will improve walkability, transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it compliments our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-728-0744 or 410 728-5550 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steva A. Komeh, President

Dr. Steva G. Komeh

The Historic Marble Hill Community Association, Inc.

Officers:

Steva Komeh, DrPH, President

Ethel Witherspoon, Vice President

Lainie Jackson-Dixon Secretary,

Joan Davis, Treasurer

Louvenia Thomas



April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the importance of the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program and the support for the project from Innovation Village (IV.) We look forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. Our strategy for the development of the innovation and creative tech economy depends on competent transportation infrastructure and the TIGER plan literally moves this our area forward in connection to the rest of Baltimore. The leadership of IV believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it compliments our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 917-250-1530 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Andre Robinson

**Executive Director** 

#### MADISON PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

c/o Midtown Development Corporation, Inc. 25 E. 20<sup>th</sup> Street Baltimore, Maryland 21218

The Honorable Anthony Foxx US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

#### **Dear Secretary Foxx:**

For decades, the fate of North Avenue in Baltimore has decided the fortunes and misfortunes of the neighborhoods along its route. The riots of 1968 destroyed a lot of the commerce and residences along its route, and policymakers at the time made decisions based upon their best knowledge at the time to reshape this major thoroughfare into what is now an area of dysfunction and opportunity.

For several years, many of our neighbors have been revisiting the huge barriers that have divided our neighborhoods for half a century. The North Avenue Rising project currently underway represents the best efforts of neighbors and experts acting in good faith to improve streetscaping, connect neighbors to quality transportation, rectify ongoing pavement concerns, encourage multi-modal transportation, and to tie in the inertia of local development groups with a holistic strategy to improve the quality of life of the people who call this area home.

Madison Park Improvement Association wholeheartedly supports the North Avenue Rising project. Many of our neighbors rely on the Light Rail, bus lines and sidewalks to get to work each day. Still others rely safe streets and improvised bike lanes to get where we need to go. We look forward to seeing proven transportation strategies implemented at our doorsteps, and we firmly believe that North Avenue Rising could be a remarkable success story in our neighborhoods' histories.

Best regards,

Brent A. Pertusio

President

Madison Park Improvement Association

443-956-1690



April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Mount Royal Community Development's (MRCDC) strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. MRCDC looks forward to building on the TIGER program to build upon existing community plans and elevate the utility of Central and West Baltimore's transportation infrastructure. We anticipate that working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor will ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of MRCDC believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it compliments our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 917-250-1530 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Andre Robinson

**Executive Director** 

Andro Rolins

## The New Broadway East Community Association 1706 N. Washington Street Baltimore, Maryland 21213

April 21, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey, The New Broadway East Community Association's solid support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The New Broadway East Community is confident that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of The New Broadway East Community believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it compliments our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 443-756-3114 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Doris Minor-Terrell

President

# The New South Clifton Park Community Association

2007 N. Wolfe Street Baltimore, Maryland 21213 410-558-2965

April 26, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the New South Clifton Park Community Association's (NSCPCA) strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The NSCPCA is committed to stand with the East North Avenue Community Development Corporation as your project will build upon the existing community plans of the Streetscape Project presently underway. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of NCSCPA believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it compliments our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-710-5459 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincercly,

Roland T. Epps, Sr.

Vice President



### COMMUNITY

## ASSOCIATION

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Penn North Community Association's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. PNCA is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. We believe that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it firmly supports our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-523-3497 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.



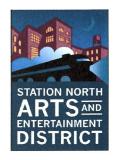
## COMMUNITY

## ASSOCIATION

Sincerely submitted,

Annie J. Hall, President

Penn-North Community Association



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Executive Director

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Station North Arts and Entertainment District's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Station North Arts and Entertainment District has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

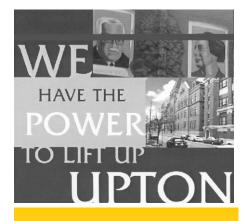
We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Station North Arts and Entertainment District believes that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-XXX-XXXX with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Blake Sanders

Chair, Station North Arts & Entertainment, Inc.



#### UPTON PLANNING COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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> Wanda G. Best, Executive Director Upton Planning Committee, Inc. P.O. Box 16433 Baltimore, MD 21217 Phone: (410)299-1535

Phone: (410)299-1535 Fax: (410)728-5519 wgbest@verizon.net

Website: HistoricUpton.com
Facebook: Historic Upton Neighborhoods

April 25, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey The Upton Planning Committee's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Upton Planning Committee has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City of Baltimore, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of the Upton Planning Committee believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for the broader community.

The Upton community is located along the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor which is adjacent to the North Avenue Corridor. The *North Avenue Rising* project will provide much needed transportation funding for West Baltimore, which can be leveraged to help strengthen transportation infrastructure along the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor in the future.

We look forward to the positive impact that will come from enhanced transportation on North Avenue through the MTA and Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* project. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant.

With regards,

Wanda G. Best

Wanda G. Best, MPA, LDN Executive Director Upton Planning Committee, Inc.



#### Rebuilding Baltimore's Neighborhoods

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Charles B. Duff
President
J. Joseph Clarke
Vice President
Ed Rutkowski
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Melissa Warlow

25 East 20th Street Baltimore, Maryland 21218 410.327.7373 phone 410.327.6444 fax www.jubileebaltimore.org April 26, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Jubilee Baltimore's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Jubilee Baltimore, Inc. is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Jubilee Baltimore believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-982.0131 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Charles B. Duff President

Track Duf



910 Reisterstown Road | Baltimore, Maryland 21208 410.484.6100 office | 410.484.6103 fax | schwaberholdings.com

April 27, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue. S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Schwaber Holdings, through its 900–918 West North Avenue, LLC subsidiary, is the owner of the properties located at 900-918 W. North Avenue. We have been made aware of the proposed TIGER grant program to revitalize the North Avenue corridor called "North Avenue Rising."

We are also currently involved in a proposed redevelopment plan that involves our properties and the adjacent vacant Madison Park North (MPN) apartments located at 850 W. North Avenue. MPN is under contract to our partner, MCB Real Estate, a Baltimore-based investment and development firm that will ultimately be redeveloping the entire four blocks between Park Avenue and Eutaw Place for a mixed use development involving residential retail and institutional uses with upwards of over \$100 million dollars of private investment.

Both Schwaber Holdings and the owners of MCB Real Estate enthusiastically support the TIGER grant application for North Avenue as a critical component of our redevelopment effort.

We look forward to a continuing partnership with the City and State as our redevelopment efforts proceed toward implementation in 2016-2017. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions on our project.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Renbaum

CEO

MLR/rjs

cc: Al Barry (via email)

Patrick McMahon (via email)
P. David Bramble (via email)
Kevin Quinn (via email)



April 22, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Seawall Development Company's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Seawall Development is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. Seawall believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-598-1762 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Evan H. Morville

Partner – Seawall Development Company



The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590 Planning, financing and building livable neighborhoods and affordable housing

25 East 20<sup>th</sup> Street Suite 100 Baltimore, MD 21218 410.685.1494

1101 30th Street NW Fourth Floor Washington, DC 20007 202.333.8447 202.338.1565 fax

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Telesis Baltimore's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Telesis Baltimore is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans and the major redevelopment efforts we have made in the Barclay neighborhood located on North and Greenmount Avenues since 2006. We look forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. Telesis believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for all community members.

I look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. I hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-685-1494 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Catherine Stokes

THAT KON

Vice President



April 19, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in support of the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Baltimore is in great need of creative planning and solutions around transit improvements and physical design enhancements that will lead to economic opportunity for community members.

North Avenue is the second biggest transit corridor in Baltimore and it plays an outsized role as a regional transportation corridor in Baltimore. One of the nodes, the Penn-North Metro Station, was the epicenter of the uprising and riots in Baltimore last spring. Addressing the disinvestment in the infrastructure and making strategic improvements to transit links, pedestrian experience and bike infrastructure are key to the overall economic revitalization of the corridor. This proposal, *North Avenue Rising*, lays out a clear outline and blueprint for investment that is critical for this community.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We urge USDOT to favorably consider this application.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Embry, Jr.

President

#### THE JACOB FRANCE INSTITUTE

April 20, 2016

1420 N. Charles Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201-5779

> 410/837-4727 (telephone) 410/837-5814 (facsimile) www.ubalt.edu/jfi

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey BNIA-JFI's strong support for, and financial commitment to, the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance—Jacob France Institute (BNIA-JFI) at the University of Baltimore has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore. As part of the 2014 Baltimore City Anchor Plan, BNIA-JFI stated our pledge to help assist the City in its development initiatives and to be a partner in its efforts to improve public transportation and other forms of mobility around our campus.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of BNIA-JFI believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our students, staff, visitors, and the broader community.

The consequences to neighborhoods of unreliable or inadequate transit are dire. Our research shows that the percent of commuters in a neighborhood traveling more than 45 minutes to get to work has the strongest, negative relationship with population change in a neighborhood. The communities in Baltimore with the highest percent of people traveling more than 45 minutes to work lie along the North Avenue corridor such as Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park (34.1%). Longer commutes can be a barrier to reliably getting to work on time particularly when relying on public transportation. These communities are also the same ones with the highest percent of residents who use public transportation to get to work (42.9% in Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park).

The same neighborhoods with high commute times lost the most population between 2000 and 2010. Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park lost nearly 2,600 people (15%) over the last decade. The impact on urban neighborhoods of long commute times is two-fold. Chances are high for an employed resident to move closer to a job more than 45 minutes away, as the negative correlation to population growth implies; conversely, chances are high for a worker to not keep a job and become unemployed. Neither outcome contributes to the quality of life in the neighborhood itself.

Our work helps offer a clear set of data-driven objectives, community organizations, non-profits, elected officials and all stakeholders can work together to eliminate disparities across Baltimore's neighborhoods. We strongly support all efforts that help reduce the percentage of households traveling more than 45 minutes to get to work. Accessibility to work and other amenities for everyone in every neighborhood is the key to regional equity in the 21st century.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts in the corridor and throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-837-5797 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Seema D. Iyer, PhD. Associate Director

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President and Executive Director



An AmeriCorps Program

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey Civic Works' strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Civic Works has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of Civic Works believes that North Avenue Rising will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the North Avenue Rising project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-366-8533 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Dana M. Stein

**Executive Director** 

Serving Baltimore's Communities and Creating Opportunities for Young Adults since 1993 Civic Works • 2701 St. Lo Drive • Baltimore, MD 21213 • (410) 366-8533 • Fax 410-366-1831 • www.civicworks.com Funded in part by the Maryland Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism - AmeriCorps Program





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Stephanie C. Hill, Chair Lockheed Martin

Donald C. Fry
President & CEO

April 20, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the strong support of the Greater Baltimore Committee for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.

The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is the preeminent regional business organization representing a broad spectrum of businesses in Baltimore City and its five surrounding counties. For sixty-one years, our organization has promoted sound public policy in the areas that affect business with a particular emphasis on transportation since it is so vital to the economic health of a region.

The GBC advocates for public policies that strengthen the business climate of the Greater Baltimore area. The GBC has a rich legacy of working in collaboration with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and vitality as a region. It is an organization that prides itself on advocating for changes in public policies that strengthen the business community and improve the quality of life in the region, and it is well known for its involvement in promoting transportation projects needed in the region. The GBC also believes that the business community must focus public attention on needs for the future.

The GBC has been at the forefront of private sector commitment in working with the Maryland Transit Administration, the City of Baltimore, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of our city.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The GBC believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

On behalf of the GBC, I look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT assist this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-727-2820, or at <u>donaldf@gbc.org</u> with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Fry

President & CEO



The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey the Maryland Film Festival's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Maryland Film Festival is encouraged that this effort builds upon existing community plans. Our organization looks forward to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations to further develop the plans for this corridor and ensure they are successfully implemented as a collaborative partnership.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of the Maryland Film Festival believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it complements our ongoing efforts throughout our community. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (410) 752-8083 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely.

Jed Dietz

Founder/ Executive Director



The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write to convey The National Center for Smart Growth's strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of The National Center for Smart Growth believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for communities along the corridor and advance principles of *smart growth*.

Over the course of the last seven years The National Center for Smart Growth has worked with MDOT and MTA through the Transportation Research and Policy Group (TPRG) on various projects including the development of a Direct Ridership Model that measures the relationship between transit and economic development around rail stations. We look forward to continuing this collaboration and to leveraging the research capacity of the University of Maryland to measure the performance of the *North Avenue Rising* project.

The National Center for Smart Growth is also teaming with Morgan State University on a proposal to the Economic Development Administration for work on technology transfer in the newly established Baltimore Innovation District. This district is bisected by North Avenue, which serves as its principle commercial corridor. As a result, the proposed work by the National Center for Smart Growth and Morgan State will nicely complement the work proposed under the TIGER grant.

I encourage that the United States Department of Transportation joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (301) 405-6083 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Gerrit Knaap

Professor and Executive Director



The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to convey our strong support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City North Avenue Rising application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum has made a strong commitment to working with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations in support of the revitalization of Baltimore.

We recognize the unique role that North Avenue plays as a transportation corridor in Baltimore and the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. The leadership of The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum believes that *North Avenue Rising* will cohesively improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members. We are particularly enthusiastic about the potential of the grant to further the Museum's efforts to attract more tourists to the area and maximize its potential as a major tourist destination.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project as it builds upon our ongoing efforts throughout the City. We hope that USDOT joins this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-563-3404, ext. 16 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely,

Joanne M. Martin

Joanne M. Martin, President







April 27, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to voice the Neighborhood Design Center's support for the joint Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)/Baltimore City *North Avenue Rising* application to the United States Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The Neighborhood Design Center led a community-developed vision for the North Avenue transportation, west of Howard Street, is actively involved in the streetscape plans for central North Avenue (where our office is located), and is working with the communities along the eastern portion of North Avenue to band together for greater community development impact in conjunction with transportation investment. NDC looks forward to continuing to work with the MTA, the City, and other public, private, and community organizations as we develop the plans for this corridor.

The Neighborhood Design Center believes that North Avenue plays a pivotal role in changing the investment, equity, and connectivity dynamic in Baltimore. It is no coincidence that both the '68 riots and the 2015 uprising centered in this space. It is critical to Baltimore's future that this space become the place where we demonstrate transportation solutions that will work for Baltimore and show the importance of investing in infrastructure to support transit, walking, and bicycling as part of its overall economic revitalization strategy. As the Executive Director of the Neighborhood Design Center, I whole-heartedly believe that *North Avenue Rising* will improve transportation and economic opportunities for our community members.

We look forward to continuing to partner with the MTA and Baltimore City on the *North Avenue Rising* project. The US DOT should join this partnership with the award of a 2016 TIGER grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-736-9643 with any questions about how we can work together to bring mobility, opportunity, and prosperity to North Avenue.

Sincerely

Jennifer Goold

Executive Director