



April 13, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: FY2016 TIGER Discretionary Grant  
I-579 "Cap" Urban Connector Project**

Secretary Foxx:

Please accept this letter in support of the FY2016 TIGER Discretionary Grant ("FY2016 TIGER") application for the I-579 "Cap" Urban Connector Project submitted by the Sports & Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County ("SEA").

Envision Downtown is a public/private partnership formed to accelerate Downtown Pittsburgh's economic growth and competitiveness. Envision's mission is to advance mobility and livability in Pittsburgh's central neighborhood, by making it safer, more attractive and convenient for everyone to get to, through and around Downtown. The initiative leverages a team of committed civic leaders and a robust data development program to implement a series of short-term, accelerated infrastructure projects with the goal of informing longer-term transformative changes to the City's mobility networks.

Envision Downtown is in the process of implementing a series of dynamic pedestrian improvements in the core of Downtown Pittsburgh. This "Great Route" is designed to connect with forthcoming pedestrian improvements to be undertaken by the SEA in the Lower Hill. Construction of the "Cap" is critical to connecting these two projects and creating a strong pedestrian backbone, economic and cultural connection between the Hill District and the Central Business District.

In addition to supporting our specific project implementation, the "cap" project will provide for safe and accessible walking and bicycle pathways and sustainable strategies such as stormwater management. These benefits are directly in line with Envision Downtown's charge to advance a 21st century vision for the sustainable and efficient development of a Downtown for all.

We are in full support of the I-579 "Cap" project and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of the FY 2016 TIGER Discretionary Grant application.

Regards,

Sean C. Luther  
Executive Director

**- 925 Liberty Avenue, 4th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 -**

Envision Downtown is a public-private partnership created by  
City of Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto & the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership  
to craft a 21st century vision for the sustainable and efficient development of a Downtown for all