



April 18, 2014

OFFICE OF MAYOR CHARLIE HALES  
CITY OF PORTLAND

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The City of Portland is pleased to express our **support** for 2014 TIGER grant funding for the Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division Access to Opportunity project. Our region understands the highly competitive nature of this program, and the applicant partners have collaborated to create a proposal that emphasizes shared objectives, mutual benefits and the efficient use of public dollars and presents a net benefit for the region

This project will align land use, local transportation choices, and development plans in five key places: the Mt. Hood Community College area; the Portland Community College Jade District area; the region's Innovation Quadrant; the Portland Community College Sylvania neighborhood area; and the Tigard Triangle. This project will leverage shared investments in transit and education to create employment opportunities that will benefit people of all incomes and backgrounds and will increase access to existing and emerging jobs in sectors vital to the local and national economy. In addition, through this project we will also develop place-based agreements that identify responsibilities for plan implementation.

Together, the Southwest and Powell-Division corridors create a single crescent across the southern portion of the Portland metro area, connecting the east and west sides of Willamette River from Gresham to Tigard. The Southwest Corridor runs through an area that is home to 26 percent of the region's jobs and 11 percent of the population. The project area also includes many neighborhoods, particularly in the Powell-Division corridor, characterized by higher poverty rates and more ethnic diversity than other parts of Portland.

A 2014 TIGER grant for the Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division Access to Opportunity project would help bring the benefits of high capacity transit to the entire Portland metropolitan region and support the success of the next generation of residents by increasing access to educational opportunity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales  
Mayor, City of Portland