

October 21, 2011

The Honorable Raymond LaHood, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Rochester, New York - Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We are pleased to submit this letter in support of the City of Rochester's application for financial assistance through the FY 2011 TIGER Discretionary Grant Program for the Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project.

Graywood and affiliated companies have been making significant investments in the downtown real estate market. We are currently constructing an \$8 M mixed use project consisting of 24 for sale row houses and a 15,000 SF three story office building. We own 64 rental units in the City and continue to purchase and renovate existing properties.

Currently, this segment of the Inner Loop creates a barrier between downtown and some of Rochester's most successful mixed-use districts, including the Park Avenue Neighborhood. It is our understanding that the proposed project will have a number of significant benefits including: pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular re-connectivity to downtown; landscaping and beautification; narrowing of an underutilized highway; and most importantly, creation of development and investment opportunities for the private sector.

Graywood will be moving forward with a new \$20 Million residential development project in Downtown Rochester adjacent to the proposed project. This project will benefit our planned investment immensely. Not only will the Inner Loop reconstruction enhance the livability of our downtown, it will increase the desirability of the rental and for-sale units we will be creating.

As a major investor in downtown real estate, both commercially and residentially, our company would be very interested in considering investing in and developing projects on newly created development and would gladly ask the City for a first right of refusal for some of the parcels resulting from the Inner Loop East project as proposed.



In closing, we enthusiastically support and urge funding for the City of Rochester's Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project.

Sincerely,



Steve Trobe

President, Graywood Design

CC: Steve Golding, City of Rochester
Bret Garwood, City of Rochester



Graywood Design

1001 Lexington Ave Rochester NY