

May 30, 2013

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Letter of support and certification for the City of Rochester Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project TIGER Discretionary Grant Proposal

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Per the Notice of Funding Availability for the Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments (TIGER Discretionary Grants Program) under the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 as published in the April 26, 2013 edition of the *Federal Register*, this letter expresses the Genesee Transportation Council's strongest support for the City of Rochester's Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project.

The Genesee Transportation Council – as the designated metropolitan planning organization for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region – previously endorsed the project as its highest priority for the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program. This endorsement was made in recognition of the significant improvement to economic development and quality of life (consistent with the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program's Primary and Secondary Selection Criteria) for the entire Rochester, New York Metropolitan Area and larger Genesee-Finger Lakes Region that would occur if the project is implemented.

Federal Highway Administration funds have been obligated for engineering and design activities and the City of Rochester has advanced the project to the point where all local, State, and Federal requirements will be met by June 30, 2014.

The Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project is included as an illustrative project in the adopted *Long Range Transportation Plan for the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region 2035* and would be added to the *2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program* as soon as possible upon selection by the U.S. Department of Transportation to receive an award through the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program.

Thank you for your strong consideration of the City of Rochester's Inner Loop East Reconstruction Project for the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program.

Sincerely,



Richard Perrin, AICP
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Thomas Richards, Mayor – City of Rochester
Hon. Mary Pat Hancock, Chairperson – Genesee Transportation Council
Joan McDonald, Commissioner – New York State Department of Transportation