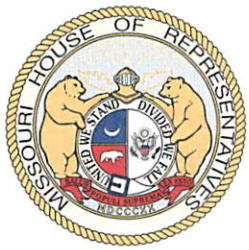
CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: (573) 751-3791
Fax: (573) 522-0561
E-Mail:
bill.white@house.mo.gov

DISTRICT ADDRESS
2122 E. 47th Street
Joplin, MO 64804
Tele: (417) 434-5361



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Bill White
State Representative
District 161

COMMITTEES
Vice-Chairman:
Regular Standing Committee on Pensions
Select Committee on Judiciary
Member:
Regular Standing Committee on Civil and Criminal Proceedings
Regular Standing Committee on Health Insurance
Regular Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy

March 29, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. The City of Joplin believes this project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. This project will provide immediate safety benefits with the removal of the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

The project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the lovability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Cordially,

Bill White
161st District

CLAIRE McCASKILL
MISSOURI

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO
OFFICE INDICATED:

555 INDEPENDENCE
ROOM 1600
☐ CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO 63703
(573) 651-0964
FAX: (573) 334-4278

28 NORTH 8TH STREET
SUITE 500
☐ COLUMBIA, MO 65201
(573) 442-7130
FAX: (573) 442-7140

4141 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
SUITE 101
☐ KANSAS CITY, MO 64111
(816) 421-1639
FAX: (816) 421-2562

5850 DELMAR BOULEVARD
SUITE A
☐ ST. LOUIS, MO 63112
(314) 367-1364
FAX: (314) 361-8649

324 PARK CENTRAL WEST
SUITE 101
☐ SPRINGFIELD, MO 65806
(417) 868-8745
FAX: (417) 831-1349

http://mccaskill.senate.gov

April 5, 2016

Mr. Howard Hill
Us Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Av
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Mr. Hill,

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the City of Joplin for the U.S. Department of Transportation National Infrastructure Investments Grant. If awarded this grant, the City of Joplin will be able to put the funds towards the 32nd Street Corridor Improvement plan, which will be a great benefit for the city.

The overall project focuses on the 32nd Street Corridor in Joplin. It would complete a 2-mile widening project from Shifferdecker Avenue to Central City Road, a railroad overpass near Davis Blvd, a northbound right turn lane at the intersection with Main Street and selected sections of new sidewalk or ADA repairs from Shifferdecker Avenue to Range Line Road. This project would improve traffic safety, reduce congestion, and will provide increased pedestrian access to parks and businesses in the area.

The City of Joplin has had previous success in receiving funding for one TIGER Grant project. Additionally, MoDOT and the Kansas City Southern Railroad have committed to be financial partners, and the Jasper and Newton County commissions are cooperative partners. The project also has support from property owners along the corridor. Thank you in advance for your full and fair consideration of this application. Please keep me appraised of the progress of the application.

Sincerely,

Claire McCaskill
United States Senator

FREEMAN
Health System

1102 West 32nd Street Joplin, MO 64804-3599 417-347-6601
freemanhealth.com

April 12, 2016

Executive Office

Mr. Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please accept this letter as strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the **32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation** project. As the area's largest employer, Freeman Health System believes this project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As this region grows, delays on 32nd Street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. This project will provide **immediate safety benefits** by removing vehicular and rail conflict while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics that will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the quality of life in the community with enhanced access to commercial corridors, hospitals, schools and green spaces.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Respectfully,

Paula F. Baker
President & Chief Executive Officer

Freeman Health System is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to improve the health of the communities it serves through contemporary, innovative, quality healthcare solutions. Freeman offers financial assistance to those who qualify.

BILLY LONG
7TH DISTRICT, MISSOURI

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND POWER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HEALTH

1541 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(PHONE) (202) 225-6536
(FAX) (202) 225-5604

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–2507

March 28, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

This letters comes in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin concerning TIGER Grant funding for their 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project.

This project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable the city of Joplin, Jasper County and the surrounding area to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

Delays on the 32nd street improvements will continue to increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. This project will provide immediate safety benefits with the removal of the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

Additionally, this project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

Again, I strongly support the application by the City of Joplin concerning TIGER Grant funding for their 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. I trust that you will give their application your utmost consideration.

Sincerely,



Billy Long

3232 EAST RIDGEVIEW STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65804
(PHONE) (417) 889-1800
(FAX) (417) 889-4915

2727 EAST 32ND STREET, SUITE 2
JOPLIN, MO 64804
(PHONE) (417) 781-1041
(FAX) (417) 781-2832

CITY OF JOPLIN MISSOURI

Public Works Department
602 S. Main Street
Joplin, MO 64801
(417) 624-0820 ext. 530
(417) 625-4738 (Fax)

April 8, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing representing unanimous support of our City Council of the City of Joplin's application for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. This project solves several key transportation issues in our city, the most important of which is an improvement in safety. It also enhances traffic flow for an important freight route, improves air quality and improves competitiveness.

This project will demonstrate the continuing strong support the City has with financial partners MoDOT and the Kansas City Southern railroad. We've collaborated on several previous projects, resulting in positive outcomes and beneficial developments for our mobile communities. In addition, both Newton and Jasper Counties are cooperative partners on a portion of this project.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd Street will continue to worsen, causing an increase in travel times, shipping costs and possibilities of traffic accidents. To add to this, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. Immediate safety benefits will result with this project, as it removes the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics that will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. With added reliability provided by this project, it will improve the livability of the community by enhancing connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Cordially,

Samuel L. Anselm
City Manager

JASPER COUNTY COMMISSION

John Bartosh
Presiding Commissioner

Jim Honey
Eastern District Commissioner

Darieus K. Adams
Western District Commissioner



302 S. Main
Carthage, MO 64836-0387

Carthage: 417-358-0421
Joplin: 417-625-4350

Toll Free: 800-404-0421
Fax: 417-358-0483

March 30, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. The Jasper County Commission believes this project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. This project will provide immediate safety benefits with the removal of the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Sincerely,

Jim Honey
Eastern District Commissioner

Sincerely,

John Bartosh
Presiding Commissioner

Sincerely,

Darieus K. Adams
Western District Commissioner

CITY OF JOPLIN MISSOURI

JOPLIN FIRE EMS RESCUE

FIRE CHIEF
James Furgerson
Joplin Fire Department
303 East Third Street
Joplin, Missouri 64801
Phone: 417-623-0403
Fax: 417-625-4709

Date: April 5, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As the Fire Chief for the City of Joplin, I am forwarding this letter in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. The Joplin Fire Department believes this project will increase safety, and enhance traffic flow for our emergency vehicles.

Currently, 32nd Street is two lane and has a challenging terrain. This is neither safe nor efficient when it comes to emergency vehicle response. When our fire department apparatus are dispatched to this area, the response times are usually lengthened as there are no shoulders for vehicles to pull to the side to allow emergency vehicles to pass. Additionally, along this route are hidden drives that must be approached with extreme caution. In our line of work, time can truly be the difference between life and death or whether a structure fire has the potential of being salvageable.

The 32nd Street project of widening and improving the terrain, will deliver safe and efficient travel flexibility for all emergency vehicles, whether it be non-emergency or emergency. The project will also improve and allow for a safe and efficient response of all emergency vehicles.

We, The Joplin Fire Department, encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Cordially,

James Furgerson
Fire Chief
Joplin, MO.

ROY BLUNT
MISSOURI

VICE CHAIRMAN, SENATE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

260 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510–2508
202–224–5721

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRMAN, RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

April 12, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The city of Joplin, Missouri, is submitting an application for federal funds under the 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant program.

This project will provide benefits for the Joplin community and the region, including needed capacity improvements along 32nd Street, a widening of Shifferdecker Avenue, and sidewalk and ADA repairs from Shifferdecker to Range Line Road. Each of these projects are designed to increase safety, improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, and increase pedestrian access to recreation and business locations in the city of Joplin. The project will also assist with access to and the development of trucking and other businesses in Joplin

It is my hope that you will give full and fair consideration to the grant request by the city of Joplin.

Sincere regards,

Roy Blunt
United States Senator

Capitol Address
State Capitol
Capitol Building, Room 234
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: (573) 751-7082
Fax: (573) 522-0562
charlie.davis@house.mo.gov

Missouri House of Representatives
CHARLIE DAVIS
State Representative
District 162

Committees
Chairman:
Veterans Committee

Member:
Utility Infrastructure
Employment Security
Select Committee on Social Services

Chairman:
Military Caucus

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

National Conference of State Legislatures Executive Committee Task Force on Military and Veterans' Affairs

March 31st, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. I believe this project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. This project will provide immediate safety benefits with the removal of the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

I encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Sincerely,

Charlie Davis
Missouri House of Representatives
District 162





P.O. Box 2102
Joplin, Missouri 64803
joplintrailscoalition@gmail.com
http://joplin-trails-coalition.webnode.com/

April 7, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing on behalf of Joplin Trails Coalition, a Missouri Not-for-Profit Corporation, in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. We believe that this project has the potential to increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, and make Joplin more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. Also, over time, we have seen more people who prefer to or need to walk or bicycle along 32nd. This project will also improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces. In this last regard, our preference would be for a dedicated bicycle lane, one that would put cyclists in less danger from vehicles turning right.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Cordially,

Paul Teverow,
Secretary

KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 219335 • KANSAS CITY, MO 64121-9335

FOUNDED 1887

KEVIN D. MCINTOSH
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
STATE AND LOCAL RELATIONS

PHONE: 816/983-1987
FAX: 816/983-1590
KMCINTOSH@KCSOUTHERN.COM

March 30, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in strong support of the application submitted by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. Kansas City Southern Railway believes this project will increase safety by eliminating the opportunities for grade crossing collisions, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase significantly in the next 20 years. This project will provide immediate safety benefits with the removal of the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Sincerely,

Kevin McIntosh

Kevin McIntosh

Wildwood Ranch Development, Inc.

March 30, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing today to express my support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project.

As Managing Member and part owner of Wildwood Ranch, a 2064 acre mixed use development located on West 32nd Street; I believe this project will be a significant transportation improvement for the area and the City as a whole. This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area.

For the last ten years, I have been working with the City of Joplin in creating a vibrant, mixed-use community and despite the current road conditions we have been successful in attracting several medical facilities and homeowners to locate at Wildwood Ranch. However, as we continue to grow and more businesses locate or build in the area, the greater the emphasis becomes for better infrastructure along the 32nd street corridor. This project will increase our ability to attract more business and improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

It is anticipated, as a result of these improvements-- that many jobs opportunities—as well as housing—will become available, which will not only benefit the City but the entire region. It will also provide the capacity to accommodate future economic growth.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this vital project.

Respectfully,

James Pinjuv

Managing Member

MoDOT

Missouri Department of Transportation

Southwest District
Becky Baltz, District Engineer

3025 East Kearney Street
P.O. Box 868
Springfield, Missouri 65801
417.895.7600
Fax: 417.895.7637
1.888.ASK MODOT (275.6636)

April 1, 2016

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

RE: TIGER Discretionary Grant for the City of Joplin

Dear Secretary Foxx,

MoDOT would like to offer support for the City of Joplin's application for a TIGER discretionary grant to provide various improvements to the 32nd Street corridor in Jasper and Newton Counties, Missouri.

The proposed project will provide numerous benefits to one of the City's major corridors. It will deliver much needed capacity improvements on the City's growing west side, reduce periodic congestion and improve safety on the east side with construction of a railroad grade separation, and provide for improved pedestrian mobility with additional sidewalks and improvements to existing facilities. Together, all of the project components will support the continuation of growth in the area, lessen the burden of delay on drivers, increase safety for both motorists and pedestrians, and promote an enhanced free flowing corridor. Because of these benefits, MoDOT believes this project is well positioned to compete for federal funding.

In addition, if Joplin receives TIGER funding MoDOT will work with the City to program and administer the federal funds and local match to successfully meet all state and federal requirements to complete the project. MoDOT supports the City of Joplin's application for TIGER funding, and urges the USDOT to give favorable consideration to the City of Joplin's application for 2016 TIGER discretionary grant funding.

Sincerely,

Becky Baltz

Becky Baltz, P.E.
District Engineer

c: Patrick McKenna, Director
Laurel McKean – sw
Andy Mueller - sw
Jay Wunderlich - gr

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-003

A RESOLUTION approving an application for the 2016 TIGER Grant with U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, as follows:

Section 1. That the City support the application to the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration in the amount of up to $20 million to $25 million for the 2016 TIGER Grant. That the Public Works Director of the City of Joplin, Missouri, is hereby authorized to execute the said application for and on the behalf of the City of Joplin,

Passed by the Council of the City of Joplin, Missouri, this 21st day of March, 2016 by a 8-0-1 vote.

Michael L. Siebert, Mayor

ATTEST:

Barbara L. Hogelin

Barbara L. Hogelin, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Peter C. Edwards, City Attorney

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 321
201 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
65101-6806
TELE: (573) 751-2173
FAX: (573) 526-5813

DISTRICT 32 OFFICE
408 E. 32nd STREET
JOPLIN, MISSOURI 64804
TELE: (417) 623-0022
FAX: (417) 623-3241
E-MAIL:
ronald.richard@senate.mo.gov

RON RICHARD
PRESIDENT PRO TEM
SENATOR
DISTRICT 32

MARCH 31, 2016

ANTHONY FOXX
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, S.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

My letter is written in support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. I believe this project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the situation on 32nd street will continue to worsen, increasing travel times, shipping costs and definitely traffic accidents. With the number of trains traveling through Joplin projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years, the need to eliminate as much of the vehicular and rail conflict as quickly as possible is critical. The safety of our citizens is of great concern to us all.

The City of Joplin has my full support and I strongly encourage your utmost consideration of their application for assistance.

Sincerely,

Ron Richard

Ron Richard
Senator
District 32

.

April 12, 2016

Anthony Foxx

Secretary of Transportation

U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.

Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Joplin Association for the Bind provides transportation services for sight impaired and handicapped members of the greater Joplin area, which includes Jasper and parts of Newton County. As such, we recognize the importance of not only maintaining but improving the traffic flow on our streets and roadways. We stand in strong support of the project for the enhancement of traffic flow on 32nd Street Corridor of the Joplin area.

The clients of our organization require either the services of this organization, public or private transportation. We are enthusiastic in our endorsement and support of transportation infrastructure initiatives which will provide improved services for our clients.

This project will provide immediate improvements in safety and efficiencies. It will allow not only our clients but all of the people of the greater Joplin area improved access to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and recreation areas. It will provide reliable traffic flow for fire and emergency medical vehicles. This reliability will be in jeopardy without this project. The projected increase in train traffic would greatly disrupt travel along this corridor. It is our hope that you will join us in supporting this crucial project for the greater Joplin area.

Cordially,

Joplin Association for the Blind



NEWTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE · MISSOURI

NEWTON COUNTY COMMISSION

Newton County Courthouse · 101 S. Wood · Suite 201 · Neosho, MO 64850
(417) 451-8223 · Fax: (417) 451-8289

MARILYN RUESTMAN, Presiding Commissioner
ALAN COOK, Commissioner, District 1
JIM JACKSON, Commissioner, District 2

April 4, 2016

Mr. Anthony Foxx
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-001

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We submit this letter in support of the City of Joplin's grant application for TIGER Grant funding. We Commissioners of Newton County, know that this Grant will help address safety issues as well as traffic flow for freight distribution in Joplin. The end result would be improved business development opportunities.

The TIGER grant will help reduce delays along 32nd street by offering increased vehicle capacity. This grant will also enhance the flow of train traffic, which is predicted to increase over the next few years.

We personally recognize addressing these issues are important TIGER grant objectives.

Newton County looks forward to continuing to work with our local partners to ensure an improved transportation system that will offer connectivity and flexible transportation infrastructure able to provide for future needs.

Sincerely,

THE NEWTON COUNTY COMMISSION

Marilyn Ruestman
Presiding Commissioner

Alan Cook
District 1 Commissioner

Jim Jackson
District 2 Commissioner

JOPLIN AREA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

April 15, 2016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in strong support of the application by the City of Joplin for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. The Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce believes this project will increase safety, enhance traffic flow for a key freight route, reduce public costs for transportation repairs, improve air quality, and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd Street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times, shipping costs and the possibility of traffic accidents. In addition, the number of trains traveling through Joplin is projected to increase by almost 100% in the next 20 years. This project will provide immediate safety benefits with the removal of the vehicular and rail conflict, while also providing the capacity to accommodate future growth.

This project will deliver efficiencies, safety and flexibility in transportation logistics which will foster the continued economic growth of the Joplin area. The added reliability provided by this project will also improve the livability of the community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Cordially,

Rob O'Brian, CEcD
President

320 E. 4TH STREET
JOPLIN, MO 64801
(417) 624-4150
info@joplincc.com
UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ACCREDITED

MoDOT

105 West Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Missouri Department of Transportation
Patrick K. McKenna, Director

1.888.ASK MODOT (275.6636)

April 14, 2016

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

RE: TIGER 2016 Discretionary Grant for City of Joplin

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please accept this letter as a demonstration of support for the City of Joplin's application for a TIGER 2016 discretionary grant. If funded, this grant would be used to improve the safety of the surrounding community by creating a grade separated railroad crossing by taking 32nd Street over the Kansas City Southern Railroad on 32nd Street near Davis Blvd. in Joplin. This improvement will significantly improve safety for the more than 16,000 vehicles per day that use 32nd Street. The City of Joplin has worked cooperatively with Kansas City Southern railroad on several projects in the community. This could be one more opportunity to work together!

The Missouri Department of Transportation is committed to the continued improvements of the state's highway rail crossings and, if awarded, would contribute $100,000 of safety improvement program funds toward the completion of the project.

We are confident that this project will improve the safety and accessibility of the intersection to both motorists and railroad traffic and appreciate all consideration given when reviewing the application.

Sincerely,

Patrick K. McKenna
Director

cc: Sam Anselm, City of Joplin
Michelle Teel - mo
Becky Baltz - sw
Jay Wunderlich - gr

The Independent Living Center

Inspiring Independence

04/05/5016

Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing in strong support of the City of Joplin's application for the 32nd Street Corridor and Grade Separation project. I am the Assistant Executive Director at The Independent Living Center, a nonprofit corporation that provides community-based supports for people with disabilities. We believe this project will increase safety; enhance traffic flow; increase access for people with disabilities; improve air quality; and enable our city, county and region to improve competitiveness in industry and trade.

As the region grows, the delays on 32nd Street will continue to worsen, which will increase travel times and the possibility of traffic accidents. The reliability provided by this project will greatly improve the livability and safety of our community with enhanced connectivity to commercial corridors, medical centers, schools and green spaces. For individuals with disabilities and access needs, such reliability is extremely important.

We encourage and support transportation infrastructure initiatives that benefit the region in terms of safety, jobs and economic opportunity. We hope you will join us in supporting this crucial project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Brady
Assistant Executive Director

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