

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 24, 2011

Peter Rogoff
Administrator, FTA
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Greg Winfree
Deputy Administrator, RITA
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff and Deputy Administrator Winfree,

We write today to express our support for the National Transit Research Consortium's (NTRC) application for the University Transportation Centers Program grant solicitation issued by the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA).

NTRC, led by the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San Jose State University, combine nine university transit research and education programs from across the country with proven transit knowledge and workforce development opportunities. The wide geographic, economic, and topical diversity amongst the Consortium partners offers NTRC a unique opportunity to leverage each program's expertise to find new real-world solutions to our transit challenges. Along with MTI in San Jose, California, the NTRC team member universities include:

- Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) at Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ);
- Howard University Transportation Safety Data and Research Center (HUTC) at Howard University (Washington, DC);
- Four members of the Michigan-Ohio University Transportation Center (MIOH), led by the University of Detroit Mercy (Detroit, MI), in partnership with Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH), Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI), and University of Toledo (Toledo, OH);
- Nevada University Transportation Center (NUTC) at University of Nevada (Las Vegas, NV); and
- Thomas D. Larson Pennsylvania Transportation Institute's Bus Research and Testing Center (BRTC) at Penn State University (University Park, PA).

It is our understanding that the proposed Consortium will allow all university partners to serve the public transportation industry through research, education and workforce development, and technology transfer activities. The NTRC reports that it will provide, through one easily accessed research unit, proven expertise on alternative fuels, safety and security, public policy, finance, workforce development, livable communities, environmental sustainability, economic competitiveness, new modes, and many other critical factors essential to sustainable mobility.

Thank you for the Department's full and fair consideration of this application consistent with applicable law, rules, and regulations.

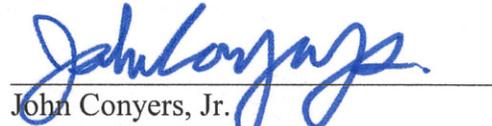
Sincerely,


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress


Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator


Robert P. Casey, Jr.
U.S. Senator


Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress


John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress


Glenn Thompson
Member of Congress

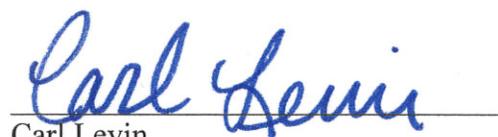

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress


Hansen Clarke
Member of Congress


Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress


Bill Shuster
Member of Congress


Jason Altmire
Member of Congress


Carl Levin
U.S. Senator