United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
FINANCE
BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
BUDGET
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 April 22, 2014

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

RE: FY2014 TIGER VI - Lower Hill Urban Redevelopment Infrastructure Project

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to provide this support letter for an application submitted by the Sports & Exhibition Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (SEA) as lead applicant for a U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER VI Discretionary capital and planning grant. SEA has multiple partners in this project including, but not limited to, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Allegheny County, the City of Pittsburgh, the Urban Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Arena Real Estate Redevelopment L.P.

The planned infrastructure improvements will support the redevelopment of a 28 acre site located in the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. If awarded, this will help to fund (a) construction of a portion of a new urban street grid (roads, sidewalks, street lighting, stormwater planters, and storm, sewage and water utility lines) for the 28-acre site, (b) improvements to surrounding roads of Centre Avenue, Bedford Avenue, Crawford Street and Washington Place, and (c) the final design of a "cap" over Interstate 579 Crosstown Boulevard.

I-579 Crosstown Boulevard has been a physical barrier between the Hill District and Downtown for over 50 years. Funding will provide for final design of a "cap" over the interstate highway, which will eventually reconnect the 28-acre site to Downtown when constructed. The "cap" will provide urban open space, opportunities for development, and pedestrian and bike-friendly access to the City's central business district. It is anticipated that the development will create approximately 4,000 jobs during construction and approximately 3,000 permanent jobs when fully built-out. In addition, it will attract private investment of over \$379 million, and provide 606,000 sq ft of Class A office space, over 254,000 sq ft of commercial space, a 150 room hotel, a 2.8 acres of urban open green space, and 1,191 residential units. Finally, it is intended that the infrastructure and development will earn a LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) certification, and most buildings will be LEED certified buildings.

In order to assist in these efforts with the Sports & Exhibition Authority's initiative, I respectfully request that you give their application all due consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Pat Toomey

United States Senator