



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

May 29, 2015

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

As the State Representative for House District 14, East and North Kaua'i, I respectfully ask for your support on the County of Kaua'i's TIGER grant application to assist in completing the Lihu'e Town Core Mobility and Revitalization Project.

Lihu'e Town once served as the thriving commercial, civic and cultural heart of our sugar plantation economy. There are stately historic buildings, old walking paths, and a rail road track along a stream bed, extraordinary old banyan trees and a small cadre of third generation shop keepers. Over time, with progressive commercial activity and the closing of the sugar plantations, Lihu'e town transformed into a business center, still thriving, however, its beauty and historic significance remains in the "back streets".

With an interest in renewing the town core and recreating a vibrant town center, things are beginning to change. Streets are being designed for walking, bicycling and transit. Businesses are recognizing the value of the area and investing in renovation of historic buildings. An example of dedicated historians and those who possess the rich cultures of Hawaii, is the revitalization of the Kauai Museum and its preservation work and displays in the heart of Lihu'e Town. A Kaua'i icon re-born.

The County of Kaua'i TIGER project proposal completes the transportation infrastructure required to transform our aging town center into the vision of a vibrant pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use town center. It improves connectivity and safety for all modes of transportation, including vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and transit; it improves access for low and moderate income populations and seniors to services and most significant; it serves as a catalyst for the economic revitalization of our historic town center.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the County of Kaua'i TIGER project application.

With Warm Aloha,

Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami

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