May 22, 2015

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

As business advocate located in the Līhu‘e Town Core, I strongly support the County of Kauai‘i’s TIGER grant application to complete the Līhu‘e Town Core Mobility and Revitalization Project. The benefits the three forms from my perspective.

The current transportation infrastructure is inadequate. I believe that existing businesses would likely see an increase in their profits and would be motivated to expand.

Similarly, new businesses recognize that Lihue should by all rights be the center of activity on the Island. The TIGER Grant would prove to those parties that Lihue is worth investing in.

Lastly, there are a number of business advocacy/business development interests in the Līhu‘e Town Core that are within a 5 minute walk of each other. These include the Small Business Development Center that I direct, the Kauai County offices for economic development and planning, main offices for the 5 major lenders on Island, the Kauai Chamber of Commerce, the Kauai Economic Development Board, the Hawaii Community Foundation, Kauai Planning and Action Alliance, various State offices including Department of Labor, Department of Taxation, Depart of Health and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation as well as still others. The revitalization will enhance our ability to work together and create the Business Street brand that a number of us have been working to develop.

Again, the proposal has my strong support.

Sincerely,

John Latkiewicz, Ph.D.  
Kauai Center Director, Small business Development Center