May 19, 2015

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

The State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) wholeheartedly supports the County of Kauaʻi’s TIGER grant application to assist in completing the Līhuʻe Town Core Mobility and Revitalization Project.

SHPDA has been an active participant in the Kauai Community Health Improvement Initiative, (KCHII) since its inception. The KCHII is based on a strong partnership between the people of Kauai, Kauai District Health Office, Wilcox Memorial Hospital, Department of Education, University of Hawaiʻi-Kauai Community College, County of Kauai, and other government and non-government agencies. Over a two year period, the partnership engaged residents and organizations in a planning process to assess community health needs, determine core values and visions for preferred futures, identify priority issues, and develop strategies and detailed plans for action. The partnership produced a plan that identifies five key areas: community design (including active transportation through changes in the built environment), housing, education and lifelong learning, health and wellness, and medical care. The plan coordinates a broad coalition’s concerted efforts to lay a solid foundation for improved population health.

The County of Kauai’s grant application provides for a ladder of opportunity for all residents. It also supports the KCHII partnership in moving closer to achieving its vision:

All people in Kauai enjoy healthy lives and healthy communities— residents and visitors enjoy Kauai’s healthy, livable, active and vibrant communities. Social equity has been built into community design and planning to support access to services and to achieve active and healthy living for all residents...
~Kauai Community Health Improvement Plan, 2014

I urge you to approve funding the County of Kauai’s TIGER grant application.

Sincerely,

Romala Sue Radcliffe
Administrator