



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Dane

ROOM 118, CITY-COUNTY BUILDING  
210 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARD  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703-3342  
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May 12, 2015

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

Re: Dane County Board and Public Works and Transportation Committee support for TIGER VII Grant Application for Madison Metro Satellite Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please accept our letter of support for the City of Madison's application for federal funding to for the construction of a bus garage to house the buses in use by Madison Metro. This letter of support highlights the importance of transit for Dane County, in particular the greater Madison metropolitan area.

We understand the constraints that Madison Metro currently has to expand bus service due to lack of garage capacity. Given the high ridership Madison Metro has attained, we are concerned not only about continuing the high level existing service, but the ability to further grow the system to new areas such as Sun Prairie, Waunakee, Cottage Grove, and other surrounding communities.

The current bus facility on East Washington Avenue in Madison is designed for 160 buses and has 214 40-foot buses and 17 smaller para-transit vehicles stored there. We recognize the financial impracticalities of building a garage at the current location as identified in the 2005 bus garage study.

We support the City of Madison's Long Range Facilities Committee recommendation for satellite garage locations rather than rebuilding the existing location due to the costs involved and other factors. The decision to purchase the former Cub Foods property on Nakoosa Trail, a 15+ acre parcel that offered the potential to meet several city department space needs, should help meet this need.

With careful planning, the current proposal to construct a 56 unit bus garage including 36 60-foot articulated buses and 20 40-foot buses would meet the City's needs now and into the future, and support from a federal Tiger grant will help make this a reality. We also support the City's desire to construct this facility as a clean energy garage, which will further this facility to meet future needs with respect to alternate fuel buses (including diesel, electric, and CNG).



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We believe the increase in safety, the benefits to the environment, the surpassing of the useful life of the East Washington Street facility, the ability to expand regional transit and to provide greater equity to all citizens will make this grant request successful.

Sincerely,

Robin R. Schmidt, Chair  
Dane County Public Works and Transportation Committee

Sharon Corrigan, Chair  
Dane County Board

cc: Mark Gottlieb, WisDOT Secretary  
Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive  
Chuck Kamp, Madison Metro Transit General Manager  
Paul Soglin, City of Madison, Mayor