



Resolutions & Letters of Support

Village of Oak Park Resolution in support of an application for a United States Department of Transportation Tiger Discretionary Grant

Village of Forest Park Resolution in support of an application for a United States Department of Transportation Tiger Discretionary Grant

Village of River Forest Resolution in support of an application for a United States Department of Transportation Tiger Discretionary Grant

Randall Blankenhorn, Secretary
Illinois Department of Transportation

Liisa Lawson Stark
Union Pacific Railroad

Joseph Szabo, Executive Director
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

The Honorable La Shawn K. Ford
Illinois House of Representatives

Shannon Williams, Executive Director
Downtown Oak Park

Heidi Ruehle-May, President
Pleasant District Association

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF
A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TIGER 2017 DISCRETIONARY GRANT
APPLICATION FOR THE HARLEM AVENUE MULTIMODAL BRIDGE PROJECT**

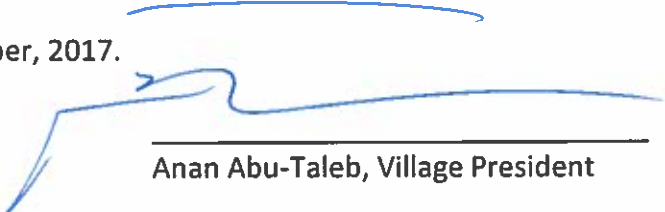
BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park, Cook County, State of Illinois, in the exercise of their home rule powers, that the Village Manager or the Village Manager’s designee is hereby authorized and directed to submit a United States Department of Transportation TIGER 2017 Discretionary Grant Application for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridger Project.

THIS RESOLUTION shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and approval as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of October, 2017 pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

Voting	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
President Abu-Taleb	✓			
Trustee Andrews	✓			
Trustee Boutet	✓			
Trustee Button	✓			
Trustee Moroney	✓			
Trustee Taglia	✓			
Trustee Tucker	✓			

APPROVED this 2nd day of October, 2017.



Anan Abu-Taleb, Village President

ATTEST



Vicki Scaman, Village Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. R-81-17

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION BY THE
VILLAGES OF FOREST PARK, OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST
FOR A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TIGER DISCRETIONARY ACT GRANT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Commissioners of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois ("Village") that the Council supports the application for a United States Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Act grant for improvements at the Harlem Avenue viaduct in conjunction with the Villages of River Forest and Oak Park.

THIS RESOLUTION shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and approval as provided by law.

Resolved this 10th day of October, 2017.

AYES: _____ 5 _____

NAYS: _____ 0 _____

ABSENT: _____ 0 _____

APPROVED:



Mayor Anthony T. Calderone

ATTESTED:



Vanessa Moritz, Village Clerk

RESOLUTION 17-17

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TIGER DISCRETIONARY GRANT

WHEREAS, the Villages of River Forest, Oak Park, and Forest Park share jurisdictional boundaries at the location of the Harlem Avenue viaduct; and

WHEREAS, in addition the area serves a major transportation corridor for vehicles, Union Pacific, Metra, and the Chicago Transit Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Villages of River Forest, Oak Park, and Forest Park have been previously awarded a grant to study the feasibility of improving the Harlem Avenue viaduct; and

WHEREAS, the Villages of River Forest, Oak Park, and Forest Park agree that the improvements in the study should be constructed and now seek federal assistance to ensure the project can be accomplished to protect the health, safety and welfare of the communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of River Forest, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: The Village Board supports the application for a United States Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Act grant for improvements at the Harlem Avenue viaduct in conjunction with the Villages of Oak Park and Forest Park.

Section 2: The Village Administrator is authorized to act on behalf of the Village in the execution of documents relating to the application of the grant.

Section 3: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, by a vote of a majority of the Corporate Authorities.

Passed on a roll call vote of the Corporate Authorities on the 9th day of October, 2017.

AYES: Trustees Corsini, Conti, Henek, Gibbs, Cargie, and Vazquez

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVED by me this 9th day of October, 2017



Village President

ATTEST:



Deputy Village Clerk



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764
Telephone 217/782-5597

October 11, 2017

Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 9th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20590-9898

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) supports the Village of Oak Park's 2017 "Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER IX)" grant program application. The application seeks \$22.2 million in federal TIGER funds for the "Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Project" project. The total cost of the project is \$27.7 million, which will be matched with \$5.5 million in non-federal funds.

The project consists of the replacement of the existing 115-year-old bridge (the existing underpass structure at Harlem Avenue) and the removal of the center and curb-line columns. The Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park intersect the project location. The project is truly intermodal in nature and will upgrade and replace a vital piece of infrastructure serving several transportation modes including automobiles, Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) trains, Metra commuter rail, several CTA and Pace bus routes, freight traffic and pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

The bridge in its current configuration is a pinch point for automobiles, buses, and trucks, which restricts access through the local retail corridor extending from Madison to Lake Street. The roadway under the bridge consists of four ten-foot lanes and has a posted vertical clearance of 14 feet (trucks periodically strike the bridge). The low clearance and pier columns of the bridge create a serious safety hazard.

Again, IDOT supports the City's request for TIGER funds for this project. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randall S. Blankenhorn".

Randall S. Blankenhorn
Secretary



BUILDING AMERICA®

October 12, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Support for the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park 2017 TIGER Grant Application for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Replacement Project

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of Union Pacific Railroad, I am writing in support of the TIGER grant application submitted by the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park, Illinois, for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement Project.

The project is expected to provide local and regional mobility improvements needed for western Cook County to meet future economic, mobility, and community development goals. It will also provide positive impacts for rapid transit, commuter rail, buses, automobiles, pedestrians, cyclist, and freight rail traffic. Furthermore, it is expected to improve connections to jobs, education institutions, and other regional services.

Union Pacific has an excellent relationship with the Villages and look forward to working with them if they are awarded a 2017 TIGER grant. Furthermore, we look forward to continue to work with the parties involved to ensure the plans follow our engineering standards requirements and provide a safe stairway for our employees. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Liisa Lawson Stark

CAPITOL OFFICE

239 - E STRATTON BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217-782-5962
FAX 217-557-4502

repford@lashawnford.com

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



COMMITTEES:

- APPROPRIATIONS - ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION
- APPROPRIATIONS - HUMAN SERVICES
- FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
- HIGHER EDUCATION
- INSURANCE: PROPERTY & CASUALTY
- RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
- TOURISM, HOSPITALITY & CRAFT INDUSTRIES
- VETERANS' AFFAIRS

La Shawn K. Ford
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
8TH DISTRICT

October 12, 2017

Ms. Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in support of an application from Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project. It is our hope that **FY 2017 TIGER** program will provide funding for this project as it will create local and regional mobility improvements overriding obstacles to economic, mobility, and community development goals of Western Cook County for the 21st Century.

This project will have progressive impacts for rapid transit, commuter rail, and bus, automobile, pedestrian, bicycle, and freight traffic enhancing regional mobility, access to jobs, and economic competitiveness. The improvement of the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge advances an avenue to jobs, education institutions, and other regional services.

On behalf of the Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park Community, I thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LKF".

La Shawn K. Ford
State Representative – Eighth District



1010 Lake Street, Suite 114
Oak Park, IL 60301
708.383.4145 ph
708.383.4975 fax
www.downtownoakpark.net

Ms. Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please find this letter in support of the grant application from Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project. It is our hope that FY 2017 TIGER program will provide funding to this project as it will create local and regional mobility improvements paramount to economic, mobility, and community development goals of Western Cook County for the 21st Century.

This project will have positive impacts for (1) rapid transit, (2) commuter rail, (3) bus, (4) automobile, (5) pedestrian, (6) bicycle, and (7) freight traffic enhancing regional mobility, access to jobs, and economic competitiveness. The improvement of these facilities improves connections to jobs, education institutions, and other regional services.

On behalf of [insert organization], I thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shanon Williams", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Shanon Williams
Executive Director



Heidi Ruehle-May
President, Pleasant District Association
c/o Pleasant Home Foundation
217 Home Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302

Ms. Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please find this letter in support of the grant application from Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project. It is our hope that FY 2017 TIGER program will provide funding to this project as it will create local and regional mobility improvements paramount to economic, mobility, and community development goals of Western Cook County for the 21st Century.

This project will have positive impacts for (1) rapid transit, (2) commuter rail, (3) bus, (4) automobile, (5) pedestrian, (6) bicycle, and (7) freight traffic enhancing regional mobility, access to jobs, and economic competitiveness. The improvement of these facilities improves connections to jobs, education institutions, and other regional services.

On behalf of the Pleasant District Association, I thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Ruehle-May".

Heidi Ruehle-May
Board President, Pleasant District Association