



## **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

Richard F. Pellegrino, Executive Director  
West Central Municipal Conference

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
United States Senate

The Honorable Danny K. Davis  
United State House of Representatives

The Honorable Don Harmon  
Illinois State Senate

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**

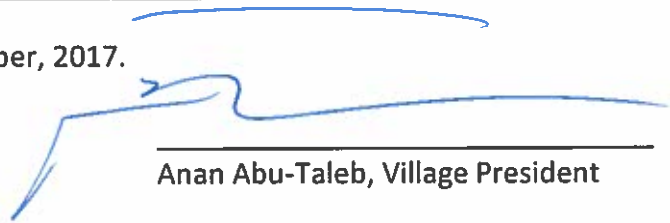
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park, Cook County, State of Illinois, in the exercise of their home rule powers, that the Village Manager or the Village Manager’s designee is hereby authorized and directed to submit a United States Department of Transportation 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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**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



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Village President

ATTEST:



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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, 9<sup>th</sup> 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



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606  
312-454-0400  
www.cmap.illinois.gov

October 13, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), 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,

Joseph C. Szabo  
Executive Director

MP:JCS/stk

## Board Members

Gerald Bennett, Chair  
Rita Athas  
Frank Beal  
Matthew Brolley  
Franco Coladipietro  
Janel Forde  
Elliott Hartstein  
Al Larson  
Andrew Madigan  
John Noak  
Martin Oberman  
Rick Reinbold  
Carolyn Schofield  
Peter Silvestri  
Matthew Walsh

## Non-voting Members

Sean McCarthy  
Leanne Redden  
Justine Sydello

## Executive Director

Joseph C. Szabo



**MEMBER COMMUNITIES**

- Bellwood
- Berkeley
- Berwyn
- Broadview
- Brookfield
- Cicero
- Countryside
- Elmwood Park
- Forest Park
- Forest View
- Franklin Park
- Harwood Heights
- Hillside
- Hodgkins
- LaGrange
- LaGrange Park
- Leyden Township
- Lyons
- Lyons Township
- Maywood
- McCook
- Meirose Park
- Norridge
- Northlake
- North Riverside
- Oak Park
- River Forest
- River Grove
- Riverside
- Rosemont
- Schiller Park
- Stickney
- Stone Park
- Summit
- Westchester
- Western Springs
- Willow Springs

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

- Brookfield Zoo
- Triton College
- Morton College
- Norwood Park Twp Hwy Dept.
- West Suburban
- Water Commission
- Proviso Twp
- Stickney Twp
- Village of Bensenville
- City of Elmhurst
- City of Oakbrook Terrace
- City of Des Plaines
- Village of Bloomingdale
- Village of Villa Park
- Village of Willowbrook

**PRESIDENT**

William Rodeghier  
Western Springs

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Catherine Adduci  
River Forest

**TREASURER**

Paul Volpe  
Elmwood Park

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Christopher Getty  
Lyons

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Richard F. Pellegrino



WEST CENTRAL MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

2000 Fifth Avenue, Building N  
River Grove, IL 60171  
ph 708/453-9100 fax 708/453-9101  
www.westcook.org

Oct 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:

Please find this letter in support of the grant application from the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park relative to the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project.

The West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) supports the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Planning Grants funding for northeastern Illinois. The WCMC serves as the Council of Government (COG) for communities directly west of the City of Chicago inside of Cook County as well as those contiguous thereto in eastern DuPage County. The WCMC fosters communication between our member communities as well as aids in developing collaborative solutions to regional problems.

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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, educational institutions, and other regional services.

On behalf of the WCMC, 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

Richard F. Pellegrino  
Executive Director  
West Central Municipal Conference

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-1304

October 20, 2017

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support for the grant application submitted by the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park to fund the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project. With funding from the FY 2017 TIGER program, this project will upgrade and replace a vital piece of infrastructure serving several transportation modes including automobiles, CTA trains, Metra commuter rail, several CTA and Pace bus routes, freight, pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

The Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project is located at an existing underpass where the boundaries of Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park intersect. This project will allow for safer travel, provide additional capacity, upgrade the pedestrian environment and enhance the travel of CTA, Metra and Pace customers. The improvement of these facilities will strengthen connections to work and educational institutions, greatly benefitting western Cook County.

Please give full and fair consideration to the proposal submitted by the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park. If you require additional information, please contact my Chicago Director, Clarisol Duque, at (312) 353-4952.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Danny K. Davis  
7<sup>th</sup> District - Illinois

October 16, 2017

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this communique as a 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

I trust the application will receive all due consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danny K. Davis".

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

DKD:ic

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

CONSTITUENT SERVICE OFFICE

6941-B W. NORTH AVENUE  
OAK PARK, ILLINOIS 60302  
PHONE: (708) 848-2002  
FAX: (708) 848-2022

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE

329 CAPITOL BUILDING  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706  
PHONE: (217) 782-8176  
FAX: (217) 558-6013

DHARMON@SENATEDEM-ILLINOIS-GOV  
WWW-DONHARMON-ORG



COMMITTEES:

EXECUTIVE - CHAIRMAN

ASSIGNMENTS

JUDICIARY

JOINT COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Co -Chairman

SENATOR DON HARMON

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

39TH DISTRICT

October 16, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write in support of the 2017 TIGER Grant application submitted by the Villages of Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park, Illinois, for the Harlem Avenue Multimodal Bridge Replacement project. If received, these funds will be dedicated to replacing the existing overpass bridge over Harlem Avenue, a principal arterial for western suburbs of Chicago.

Originally constructed in 1911, the current bridge configuration leads to congestion and inefficiencies for existing traffic patterns, and restricts access through the commercial corridors on the north and south sides of the intersection. Pedestrian facilities at the site are not ADA compliant and deteriorating sidewalks discourage pedestrian activity.

To address these problems, the proposed project includes the removal of the center and curblin columns. The roadway will also be widened to accommodate two 10-foot travel lanes in each direction, plus a new left turning lane. Pavements will be lowered to achieve a vertical clearance under the bridge of 14 feet, 9 inches. Intersection improvements will allow for increased capacity and safer operations for vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, buses and trucks, which will enhance access to jobs,

educational institutions and commercial districts. Total project cost is estimated at roughly \$28 million. Project proponents are requesting an approximately \$22 million TIGER grant to supplement a combined local match of \$6 million.

Please accept this letter in support of the TIGER application submitted by these communities. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
  
Don Harmon

**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  
8<sup>TH</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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", with a long, sweeping tail.

Heidi Ruehle-May  
Board President, Pleasant District Association