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September 8, 2009

Ray LaHood
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Downtown Crossing, New Haven, CT

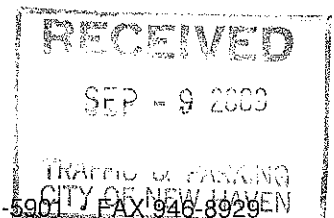
Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing in strong support of Downtown Crossing and the City of New Haven's TIGER grant application. Downtown Crossing includes the proposed conversion of the Route 34 East highway to an urban boulevard and the associated economic development of "Parcel D".

The New Haven Parking Authority owns, operates or leases more than 8,500 public parking spaces within the City of New Haven including seven multi-level parking garages and twenty-five surface parking lots. As a municipal agency, our public parking facilities serve a variety of retail, commercial, banking, professional and government offices, entertainment facilities, medical facilities and other uses with hourly, daily and monthly public parking. In serving the parking needs of the City of New Haven, the Parking Authority is involved in the economic development of the City.

We believe the proposed improvements are highly consistent with our mission and the objectives of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The City and private development team are ready to go with a 400,000 s.f. commercial lab building in the heart of the New Haven health sciences community. This new development complements over \$2 billion in recent and planned investment as New Haven emerges from the recession as an international center of influence in biotechnology and health sciences.

Route 34 East is a grade-separated highway and there is no land in the immediate area to develop more much-needed lab space. TIGER program support is therefore essential for us to reclaim land and rebuild our economic base. Construction activities will create 2,000 jobs immediately and contribute \$184 million in direct and indirect spending over the next three years. Over the long-term, the new building will create nearly 1,000 jobs supporting cutting-edge medical research. These employees will generate \$114 million in annual economic activity from wage earnings of nearly \$80 million.





Ray LaHood
Secretary United States Department of Transportation
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In no uncertain terms, these infrastructure improvements support our efforts to compete effectively in the global marketplace and that is the very essence of our economic development strategy. Thank you for your consideration and support of this essential project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William E. Kilpatrick" followed by a small flourish.

William E. Kilpatrick
Executive Director

Cc: The Honorable John DeStefano
Kelly Murphy, Economic Development Administrator, City of New Haven
Carter Winstanley, Winstanley Enterprises, LLC