



May 27, 2015

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express our strongest possible support for the City of Alexandria's application under the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2015 National Infrastructure Investments discretionary grant program (formerly "TIGER") for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. The project involves construction of an infill station on the Blue and Yellow Metrorail lines in the City of Alexandria, which is one of the core jurisdictions in the Metropolitan Washington region. The station would serve a major redevelopment site within five miles of downtown Washington, DC.

The Coalition for Smarter Growth is the leading organization in the Washington, DC region dedicated to promoting walkable, inclusive, and transit-oriented communities by advocating for the land use and transportation policies and investments needed to make those communities flourish. We have a subscriber list of 22,000 supporters, have twice been selected to the Washington Business Journal's Power 100, and have helped to win the commitment of the region's 21 jurisdictions to a network of transit-oriented communities as the framework for regional growth.

A Metrorail station at Potomac Yard is a key regional transportation investment that will enable over 7 million square feet of development at an urban, mixed-use, transit-oriented hub on a former brownfield site. It would keep jobs and residents close to the region's core, reduce regional vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions, and improve access to jobs.

The recent opening of the Silver Line to Tysons and Reston resulted in at least 15% of the new riders originating east of the Anacostia River in DC and from Prince George's County, two areas without sufficient jobs. The Potomac Yard Metro Station will likely result in a similar and even higher percentage of east-side residents using the Metro to access opportunities in the retail and office sectors. At the same time, the Metrorail station would be a significant improvement to the congested U.S. Route 1 corridor by providing direct access to the regional Metrorail system for thousands of residents and businesses, including residents to the south in Fairfax County who could reach Potomac Yard from the end-of-the-line Blue and Yellow Line stations, rather than driving into the regional core.

A "TIGER" grant would greatly facilitate the construction of the station, which is a critical piece of infrastructure for the city, the region, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The City of Alexandria has developed a carefully thought-out financing plan with significant local, regional and private sector

commitments. The station would be a key part of the Metrorail system that serves hundreds of thousands of riders every day and is vital to the continued economic competitiveness of Northern Virginia. The award of a "TIGER" grant in this case would ensure the federal government gets the biggest possible "bang for its buck," generating significant economic, jobs-access, transportation and environmental benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stewart Schwartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stewart Schwartz  
Executive Director