



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board
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Kathleen A. Rapp, Chair David V. Bottar, Executive Director

April 25, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to write this letter of support for the application that is being submitted by the Port of Oswego to the U.S. Department of Transportation for a 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant.

It is my understanding that the Port of Oswego is seeking a TIGER grant to support the development of a modern inland port and rail freight facility in Central New York. This project involves the development of an underutilized resource in the region into a modern intermodal rail and logistics distribution center. To capitalize on this resource, plans have been made to direct public resources to site development activities and infrastructure improvements, the purchase of operational equipment, and upgrades to key rail resources in the project area and associated short-line rail systems serving communities in Central New York.

In reviewing this application, I am pleased to note that the project will help the region capitalize on a major economic development opportunity for Upstate New York associated with an anticipated increase in commercial shipping activity through the Port of NY/NJ. In addition to these economic benefits, it is also important to note that this project will improve the region's transportation logistics network and reduce the costs and time associated with moving goods to major population centers in the Northeast and to international markets. Furthermore, this project will help develop a more sustainable and environmentally responsive transportation network that will serve Central New York and the NYC metropolitan area.

Based on my review, I have found this proposal to be consistent with the goals, objectives, and the project priority list of the CNY RPDB's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. I look forward to working with your office and my colleagues in Central New York to implement this important initiative.

Sincerely,

DAVID V. BOTTAR
Executive Director