



2885 South Horseshoe Drive, Naples, FL 34104 • (239) 252-8192 • Fax (239) 252-5815

June 30, 2010

The Honorable Fred W. Coyle, Chairman
Collier County Board of County Commissioners
3301 East Tamiami Trail
Naples, FL 34112

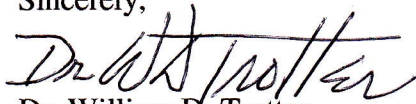
RE: Support for Collier County's TIGER II Discretionary Grant Application for the Permanent Transit Bus Transfer Station at the Collier County Government Complex

Dear Chairman Coyle:

The Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) would like to add our support for Collier County's pursuit of grant funding through the TIGER II Discretionary Grants program authorized under the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010. We understand that Collier County is submitting a TIGER II grant application for a permanent Collier Area Transit transfer station at the Collier County Government Complex. The permanent transfer station is a critical infrastructure need of the County's public transit system, which would replace the existing temporary facility and provide first-rate passenger amenities and numerous energy efficient, sustainable structural features. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$13 million and is consistent with the Collier MPO 2030 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Replacement of the temporary transfer station with a permanent, LEED Gold-Level certified facility will have a significant impact on the desirable long-term outcomes for the metropolitan area specified in the Notice of Funding Availability for the Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments under the Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations Act. In addition, this project has excellent potential for job creation within Collier County. We appreciate Collier County's taking the initiative to pursue this grant funding opportunity. If you have any questions, or if the MPO can be of any assistance, please contact Collier MPO Director Phil Tindall.

Sincerely,


Dr. William D. Trotter
Collier MPO Chairman

WT/pt

cc: Collier MPO Board Members



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

Brandy Otero
Associate Project Manager
Growth Management Division
Alternative Transportation Modes Department
2885 South Horseshoe Drive Naples, FL 34104

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Dear Ms. Brandy Otero:
Collier County Health Department is writing this letter in support of the Sustainable Intermodal Transit Station project located at 3301 East Tamiami Trail in Collier County, Florida.

The Collier County Health Department collaborates with the Collier Area Transit (CAT) on programs to promote better health for all people in the community. Recently, the Health Department and CAT coordinated an event to encourage the business community to take advantage of the transit system during lunch hours. Specifically, the Health Department is committed to the success of this transit project as an effort to encourage people to take public transportation to reduce stress and live more active lifestyles.

This project will enable and encourage our residents and visitors to use transit services in a convenient and expeditious way. The Collier County Health Department fully supports and is completely committed to the sustained success of Collier Area Transit in collaboration with Department of Alternative Transportation Modes (ATM) for the Collier County Transportation Division and the Collier County community.

We believe that the CAT Sustainable Intermodal Transit Station project and grant application has been developed to meet the needs of the community CAT serves. We respectfully request your favorable consideration of the Grant funding requested to assist in the implementation of this countywide transit initiative.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with Collier Area Transit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deb Millsap".

Deb Millsap, Director of Nutrition Services & Health Education
Collier County Health Department

Joan M. Colfer, M.D., M.P.H., Director

3301 Tamiami Trail E • Bldg. H
Naples, Florida • 34112-4961
Telephone (239) 252-8200



Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 429
Naples, Florida • 34106-0429



June 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern,

Edison State College is writing this letter in support of the **Sustainable Intermodal Transit Station project** located at 3301 TAMIAMI Trail, Naples FL, in Collier County, Florida.

Edison State College is an accredited state college with four campuses in southwest Florida. To meet the needs of the students and faculty, Edison Community College depends upon Collier Area Transit (CAT) and the County's Transit System for reliable transportation. For the last two years, CAT has coordinated with ESC on its community "Green Fest" event. (*GreenFest seeks to present information, resources, services and products that promote healthier, more ecologically sound lifestyles, as well as educate attendees about the environmental impacts of widespread consumer actions and choices*). CAT has also provided ESC students and staff with facts on the benefits of commuting, and the many ways taking CAT instead of driving can help reduce air pollution.

As a community partner, ESC is familiar with the plans for this transit facility project and fully supports this effort.

In conclusion, **ESC** is fully committed to the sustained success of **Collier Area Transit** in collaboration with Department of Alternative Transportation Modes (ATM) for the Collier County Transportation Division and the **Collier County** community.

We believe that the CAT Sustainable Intermodal Transit Station project and grant application has been developed to meet the needs of the community CAT serves. We respectfully request your favorable consideration of the Grant funding requested to assist in the implementation of this countywide transit initiative.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with Collier Area Transit.

Sincerely,



Nicole Angelo
Public Relations Specialist
Edison State College – Collier Campus
7007 Lely Cultural Parkway
Naples FL 34104
phone: (239) 732-3957



Brandy Otero
Associate Project Manager
Growth Management Division
Alternative Transportation Modes Department
2885 South Horseshoe Drive
Naples, FL 34104

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Dear Ms. Brandy Otero:

The Smart Growth Coalition comprised of the Collier County Health Department, Collier County Comprehensive Planning, Community Traffic Safety Team, Transportation Department, Collier Area Transit (CAT) and many other agencies, coalitions, businesses and citizens will contentedly support the Sustainable Intermodal Transit Station project located at 3301 East Tamiami Trail in Collier County, Florida.

The monies obtained through this grant will enable and encourage the community to use alternative modes of transportation to get to work, shopping, community centers and parks. This is a step toward correcting the urban sprawl development pattern that is currently affecting our county.

The CAT Sustainable Intermodal Transit Station will increase ridership while decreasing carbon emissions by designing an energy efficient structure where people of all ages, disabilities and capabilities can ride transit comfortably and efficiently. An infrastructure for multi-modal transportation will also assist in decreasing the inactivity and obesity epidemics that plague our nations' youth. We respectfully request your favorable consideration of the Grant funding requested to assist in the implementation of this countywide transit initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacy Revay", written over a light gray circular stamp.

Stacy Revay
Smart Growth Coalition, Chair



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Sue Trone
Project Manager

David Buchheit
Project Manager

Ashley Caserta
Grants Coordinator

June 29, 2010

RE: TIGER Grant Application

To Whom It may Concern:

The Bayshore Gateway Triangle Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) fully supports the Collier County Alternative Mode Transportation (ATM) Department's efforts to expand Collier Area Transit (CAT) operations. The facility ATM wishes to develop is located within the Redevelopment Area and would provide a much needed service to the numerous transit riders and underserved riders of the Redevelopment Area that use this location.

The CRA was created in 1999 in accordance with Florida Statute 163 based on conclusions from a study that determined that the c.1,800 acre area was slumped and blighted. The determination that the CRA was blighted was based on six criteria established by Florida Statutes; among these criteria was the lack of public transportation. Since 1999, public transit routes have been established through the main corridors of the CRA, yet the neighborhood could benefit from upgrades, such as the CAT transfer facility.

The Redevelopment Area is inhabited by a diverse population and Census figures fail to accurately describe the community. Nevertheless, the families of this community definitely struggle—as of November 2009 over 90 percent of children at Shadowlawn Elementary School received free or reduced rate lunches due to their parents' qualifications as economically disadvantaged. Improvements to the transfer station will benefit many of the CRA's constituents by protecting them from the harsh Florida climate, and helping them arrive to their destinations safely.

Whereas the sole mission of the CRA is to alleviate slum and blight, there are many facets of community decay that the CRA addresses with its limited funds. Your decision to fund the request provided to you by ATM would be a benefit the residents of the Redevelopment Area and the County as a whole.

Sincerely,

David Jackson
Executive Director



August 24, 2010

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Letter of Support for Collier Area Transit's TIGER II Grant Application

Dear Secretary:

I am writing to pledge my support for Collier Area Transit's TIGER II Grant Application. The grant requests funding in three key areas: 1) Transit Intermodal Transfer Station, 2) Photovoltaic Solar Panels for providing general electricity and creating a charging station, and 3) replacing two diesel buses with two electrical buses.

Collier Area Transit (CAT) provides transit service to Collier County, including the City of Naples, Marco Island, and the Immokalee areas. Currently, the CAT system uses a temporary passenger transfer facility that includes tents and portable toilets. This is a rudimentary and temporary arrangement, while they attempt to build a permanent sustainable Transit Intermodal Transfer Station. Considering Florida's weather, this facility cannot withstand severe storms or hurricanes and does not provide adequate protection to its customers. The current arrangements are below any reasonable standards, they are unsafe, and present a disservice to the riders of CAT's public transportation system.

With this funding, the Collier County's CAT system will not only be able to provide better service and improve the quality of life of its citizens, but it will also help revitalize the area using sustainable alternatives. At the end, the expected funding from the TIGER program will be used to create a more livable community that can attract business, tourism, foster economic development, reduce energy consumption, provide greener alternatives, and enhance the current public transportation system.

I truly hope Collier Area Transit will receive funding from the TIGER II Grant that can be used to promote public transportation and enhance the livability of the community for the benefit of its riders and citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fabian Cevallos".

Fabian Cevallos, Ph.D.
Transit Program Director
Lehman Center for Transportation Research
Florida International University
Phone: 305-348-3144
Email: fabian.cevallos@fiu.edu
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