

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20590

March 30, 2016

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the Pinellas County Commission, I am pleased to support the Pinellas Suncoast Transportation Authority (PSTA) and Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART) Authority's joint application for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for the Regional Fare Box System. This project will transform the way citizens across eight counties can access public transit. For several years, Pinellas County has submitted our own application for TIGER funding, but this year we are withholding our application in order to put our full support behind this regional priority.

The implementation of the regional fare box system will allow riders to use the latest technology in order to seamlessly move throughout the entire Tampa Bay region to access educational, cultural and employment opportunities. This project is an unprecedented partnership between eight local transit agencies with the support of numerous other local government entities and shows the region's commitment to working together in order to improve our transportation system. The regional fare box system will save money for each of the transit agencies due to reduced overhead costs and will save time on the road, as the bus will not have to sit idle while riders purchase passes onboard. Most importantly, it will dramatically improve rider experience and convenience.

The Pinellas County Commission strongly encourages your support of this TIGER grant application.

Sincerely,

Charlie Justice
Chairman, Pinellas Board of County Commissioners

cc: Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
Darden Rice, Chairman, PSTA
Mike Suarez, Chairman, HART

Attachment: Board of County Commissioners Agenda Item