



In Partnership With



# APPENDIX B: Project Support

Please note that many of these letters indicate support for the Florida's Turnpike interchange at Milepost 279 in Minneola. North Hancock Road is the local road which will connect to the proposed regional interchange. The interchange is a funded component (Segment 3) of the overall project. However, the interchange cannot be implemented without the North Hancock Road segments of the project.



**June 3, 2013**

Submitted by:  
Florida's Turnpike Enterprise  
for Lake County, FL

TIGER ID#:  
DTOS59-13-RA-TIGER5





# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON  
FLORIDA

May 28, 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast  
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

**RE:: TIGER V**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the City of Minneola's efforts to obtain a federal grant. The goal of their proposed project is to extend North Hancock road to the south as a four-lane roadway to CR 50 and to the north as a new connection to CR 561A. I respectfully request your consideration of this organization's application for federal funding.

Quality transportation programs that promote economic prosperity in this region are important to me as a U.S. Senator. If funded, North Hancock Road will provide a new parallel reliever while facilitating new demand in central Lake County. This project will alleviate traffic volumes on SR 50 and US 27 as well as lower life-cycle costs. Furthermore, this project will provide direct access to land that is planned for multi-use development.

Again, I encourage your consideration of this worthy cause. If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below.

Sincerely,  


BN/ut

CC: Ms. Celeste Brown, Regional Director, U. S. Senator Bill Nelson



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**SENATOR ALAN HAYS**

11th District

### COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government, *Chair*  
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, *Vice Chair*  
Governmental Oversight and Accountability, *Vice Chair*  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice  
Banking and Insurance  
Commerce and Tourism

### JOINT COMMITTEES:

Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining, *Co-Chair*  
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee  
Joint Legislative Budget Commission

May 29, 2013

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for Minneola Area Economic Development Facility

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Please consider this letter as my support for the Minneola Area Economic Development Facility. This project is a partnership between several private property owners, the City of Minneola, the Minneola Mountain Properties Community Redevelopment Agency, Lake County, Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise. It is anticipated that this project will create over 5,000 jobs in the local area, and generate approximately \$1 billion in total economic impact. Thousands of acres of land surrounding this proposed project have already been entitled for development, making this a unique transportation project.

The Minneola Area Economic Development Facility project has my complete support, and I would ask that you please consider it favorably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Alan Hays, DMD".

D. Alan Hays, DMD  
Senator  
Florida Senate District 11

### REPLY TO:

- 871 South Central Avenue, Umatilla, Florida 32784-9290 (352) 742-6441
- 320 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5011
- 1104 Main Street, The Villages, Florida 32159 (352) 360-6739 FAX: (352) 360-6748
- 685 West Montrose Street, Suite 110, Clermont, Florida 34711 (352) 241-9344 FAX: (888) 263-3677

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**DON GAETZ**  
President of the Senate

**GARRETT RICHTER**  
President Pro Tempore



# Florida House of Representatives

Representative Larry Metz

District 32

**District Office:**

193 Cherry Valley Trail  
Groveland, FL 34736-3645  
(352) 989-9134  
(352) 989-9136(fax)

Email: [Larry.Metz@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Larry.Metz@myfloridahouse.gov)

**Capitol Office:**

417 House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
(850) 717-5032

May 28, 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
West Building, 9th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: TIGER V Grant Application - Florida Turnpike's Enterprise for Lake County -  
Minneola Area Economic Development Facility**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As the member of the Florida House of Representatives representing district 32, which includes all of southern Lake County, I am pleased to write in strong support of a grant application submitted to your department by Florida's Turnpike Enterprise for Lake County to obtain funding for a project known as the Minneola Area Economic Development Facility. The application seeks funding under the TIGER V grant program for a critical roadway connection to a new regional interchange for Florida's Turnpike located in the heart of my district.

The proposed new interchange on Florida's Turnpike in southern Lake County has been in the planning stages for many years, and is close to becoming a reality. When the interchange finally opens, it will catalyze economic development in a largely undeveloped area of southern Lake County that has been approved for a variety of mixed uses. The project will attract job creators to our region, providing opportunities to start or grow businesses and building an attractive community for people to live, work, and play in this beautiful area of Lake County.

Many stakeholders have come together to make the new turnpike interchange possible. As reflected in the grant application, numerous governmental agencies have cooperated and contributed financially, along with private sector stakeholders, to marshal the resources necessary to bring this project to the precipice of fruition. One missing link in the overall plan is the roadway connector for North Hancock Road, which will directly serve traffic traveling to and from the new interchange. Without this needed grant funding, the necessary capacity and safety improvements to the North

Judiciary Committee ~ Civil Justice Subcommittee, *Chair*

Justice Appropriations Subcommittee ~ Choice & Innovation Subcommittee ~ Select Committee on Claim Bills

Lake County Legislative Delegation, *Chair*

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary

May 28, 2013

Page 2

Hancock Road connection to the interchange will not be funded and could jeopardize the entire project. If the Tiger V Grant application is approved, the necessary capacity improvements to North Hancock Road will be funded, transforming North Hancock Road from a substandard rural road into a transportation facility capable of safely feeding traffic to and from the new interchange. Moreover, once North Hancock Road is improved as contemplated by the subject TIGER V grant application, the two main arterial transportation facilities serving southern Lake County, namely U.S. Highway 27 and State Road 50, will be relieved of much traffic congestion and enjoy longer maintenance intervals that would otherwise occur.

Secretary LaHood, this project offers enormous benefits for the entire central Florida region. Funding this critical and last remaining piece of a proverbial complex puzzle will guarantee the timely completion and success of a critical regional transportation project with enormous potential for regional economic development and job creation.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to read this letter and for your favorable consideration of the subject TIGER V grant application. If you or your staff have any questions concerning this letter or any aspect of the project, please contact my office and we will be happy to provide or obtain the necessary information.

Respectfully,



Larry Metz  
Representative, District 32

LEM/jlw

Cc: Ananth Prasad, Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation  
Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Executive Director, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise  
T.J. Fish, AICP, Executive Director, Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Mark Johnson, City Manager, City of Minneola, Florida



May 22, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Letter of Support for TIGER V Grant – Minneola Interchange**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

At today's meeting of the Governing Board of the Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization, action was taken to support submittal of a grant application for TIGER V transportation dollars. The application is for the proposed Minneola Interchange project, which is shovel-ready summer of 2014. The project will establish a much-needed connection with Florida's Turnpike, while also catalyzing the development of a walkable, bike-able, transit-ready sustainable community.

The MPO is pleased to have the support of the Florida Department of Transportation through Florida's Turnpike Enterprise in the development of this project and in the submittal of the application. The interchange will provide relief to the regional highway network, directly benefitting investments recently made on US Highway 27, as well as State Road 50.

Minneola, which is located in southern Lake County just west of Orlando, is part of the Orlando Urbanized Area. The sub-region around Minneola has urbanized rapidly since the 2000 Census and a new access point to Florida's Turnpike will reduce existing congestion. The land use plan for the area around the planned interchange enables the development of an employment center, which will reverse current commuter patterns into Orlando. The plan also enables the mixed-uses of housing, jobs, shopping and recreational opportunities. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

The Honorable Jim Richards  
Chairman, Lake~Sumter MPO

C: Congressman Daniel Webster, Florida District 10  
Senator Bill Nelson, Florida  
Senator Marco Rubio, Florida  
Ananth Prasad, Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation  
Noranne Downs, D5 Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation

*"Promoting Regional Transportation Partnerships"*  
[www.LakeSumterMPO.com](http://www.LakeSumterMPO.com)

1616 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Leesburg, Florida 34748  
Phone (352) 315-0170 – Fax (352) 315-0993

- Lake County
- Sumter County
- Town of Astatula
- City of Bushnell
- City of Center Hill
- City of Clermont
- City of Coleman
- City of Eustis
- City of Fruitland Park
- City of Groveland
- Town of Howey-in-the-Hills
- Town of Lady Lake
- City of Leesburg
- City of Mascotte
- City of Minneola
- Town of Montverde
- City of Mount Dora
- City of Tavares
- City of Umatilla
- City of Webster
- City of Wildwood
- Florida Central Railroad
- Lake County Schools
- Sumter County Schools

# City of Minneola



May 28, 2013

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for Minneola, Florida Turnpike Interchange.

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The City of Minneola has been working diligently for over 12 years to acquire funding for a turnpike interchange for our City and all of Lake County Florida. Hundreds of meetings have been held regarding the new interchange to reach the shovel ready status.

The City of Minneola is seeking acquisition of funding for the project and has worked to build public-private partnerships with great success. The successful implementation of financing with county, state, and federal levels will propel the project to fruition. The economic impact this project will contribute is substantial by creating jobs, adding businesses, better access with improved roadways, and an overall positive effect to the quality of life for the area.

The City of Minneola supports the T.I.G.E.R. Grant request and look forward to working with its partners Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Turnpike Authority, Lake County, Family Dynamics, Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization to create a new turnpike interchange.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pat Kelley", is written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Pat Kelley

**Minneola City Hall Office**  
800 N. US Hwy 27  
Minneola, FL 34715  
352-394-3598 Ext 216  
[www.minneola.us](http://www.minneola.us)



**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 678  
Minneola, FL 34755  
352-394-3598 Ext 216  
[soppelaar@minneola.us](mailto:soppelaar@minneola.us)

## *The City of Minneola*

**Samuel R. Oppelaar Jr.**  
City Manager

RECEIVED

SEP 11 2009

LAKE-SUMTER MPO

**9 September 2009**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization  
1616 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Leesburg, FL 34748

SUBJECT: Proposed Florida Turnpike Interchange


Dear Mr. Fish,

The City of Minneola is fully supportive of the development of funding mechanisms to support the engineering and construction of the proposed interchange at mile marker 279, within the City of Minneola. The City of Minneola is ready to work in close collaboration with the Florida Turnpike Authority, Family Dynamics, LLC (property owners), and the Lake Sumter MPO to achieve success in the identification, application, and competition for State and Federal funding sources that would promote the commencement of this project at the earliest date.

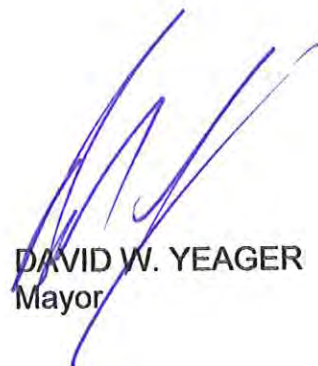
The City of Minneola City Council and the City Staff are ready to support this effort through a leadership role with the stakeholder agencies, and will provide technical, administrative, and coordinating support to catalyze all efforts that will lead to successful funding sources for this critical transportation improvement to the region. This support reflects elements of the City of Minneola Comprehensive Plan regarding this interchange and the Hills of Minneola Development of Regional Impact (DRI) within which the project lies.

OFFICIAL

Very Respectfully,



SAMUEL R. OPPELAAR JR.  
City Manager



DAVID W. YEAGER  
Mayor

*"Excellence... Delivered"*



# FAMILY DYNAMICS, INC.

September 9, 2009

Lake Sumter MPO  
Leesburg, Florida

RE: Letter of Support for Turnpike Interchange  
Public Private Partnership

To Whom It May Concern:

Family Dynamics, Inc. is the parent company of the Gregg Family Land Trust. The Gregg Family Land Trust is the owner of 1832 acres of land that comprises the Hills of Minneola, a mixed use, approved Development of Regional Impact located in Minneola, Florida. A major component of the project is a brand new turnpike interchange that will be located on our property and fully within the boundaries of the Hills of Minneola DRI.

We have been coordinating the design and construction of this interchange with the Florida Legislature, the Florida Department of Transportation and of course with the Turnpike Enterprise. This project has been identified as a public private partnership with funding for the interchange coming in part from the developer and in part from toll revenues collected by the State of Florida and the Turnpike Enterprise.

Our company will donate all of the land necessary for the construction of the turnpike interchange as well as some of the funding necessary to complete the interchange. The Turnpike Enterprise will pay for the remaining portion of the construction costs through use of toll revenues. We are committed to the completion of this interchange and to the development of this mixed use project which should have enormous economic impacts for Central Florida through increased tax revenues, increased toll revenues and the creation of as many as 6000 permanent jobs located directly adjacent to the interchange.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce G. Duncan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Bruce G. Duncan, President, Family Dynamics, Inc.



*Operates the statewide  
Turnpike System as  
part of the Florida  
Department of  
Transportation*

**CHARLIE CRIST**  
*Governor*

**STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS**  
*Secretary of  
Transportation*

**JAMES L. ELY**  
*Executive Director*

Turnpike Headquarters:  
Milepost 263, Bldg. 5315  
Turkey Lake Service Plaza  
Ocoee, FL 34761

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 613069  
Ocoee, FL 34761

Tel: 407.532.3999

[www.floridasturnpike.com](http://www.floridasturnpike.com)

September 11, 2009

T. J. Fish, AICP, Executive Director  
Lake-Sumter MPO  
1616 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street (US 27)  
Leesburg, FL 34748

Subject: Turnpike/ Minneola Interchange (Mile Post 279)

Dear Mr. Fish:

This letter provides confirmation of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) conceptual support for the proposed Minneola interchange in Lake County at mile post 279. FTE identified the need for a new interchange at this location in August 2002 (Turnpike Corridor Study, Lake Access Study) due to the large amount of new development being planned in southeast Lake County. The interchange will serve regional transportation needs and facilitate the development of a large scale planned community as well as the surrounding area.

This important project will be ready to move forward pending the successful completion of the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study and Interchange Justification Report (IJR) that are currently underway. An approved funding agreement will need to be developed for the IJR and the project is envisioned as a model public-private partnership that may be financed through an innovative funding plan.

Please feel free to contact me at (407) 264-3832 regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Raymond Ashe  
Director of Government Affairs

cc: Jim Ely



LAKE COUNTY  
FLORIDA

May 30, 2013

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: TIGER V Grant request: Minneola Area Economic Development Facility, N. Hancock Road and the Florida Turnpike Interchange

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners enthusiastically supports the 2013 TIGER V Grant request for the Minneola Area Economic Development Facility. The Board has been working for 10 years to accomplish this project, which will improve the economic vitality of Lake County, its 14 towns and cities, and the region. This project will attract industry and business to the area, which is in dire need of an economic boost. Lake County is working with the Florida Department of Transportation (Florida Turnpike Enterprise), Lake-Sumter MPO, City of Minneola, City of Clermont, and private land owners who have come together to jointly work on this project. The project includes a new Turnpike Interchange and improved county road network to serve this area. The City of Minneola has designated this area as a Community Redevelopment Area.

The Minneola Area Economic Development Facility has been projected to generate 7,000 jobs and annual employee earnings of \$300 million. The project has a significant potential economic benefit from the development and residual activities. Also, Lake County and its cities have been working on a number of other nearby Economic Development opportunities. These include a South Lake Sector Plan to attract entrepreneurial businesses focused on health and wellness, and Leesburg's Florida Energy and Aerospace Technology (FEAT) Park, which was recently selected by Duke Energy for its Site Readiness Program. The new Minneola Area Economic Development Facility is absolutely necessary to provide a cornerstone to, and complement these other business incubating projects. Lake County cannot proceed without the TIGER V Grant to assist in our funding effort. This is an exciting economic opportunity for Lake County and the Central Florida Region, and we thank you for the opportunity to apply for this TIGER V Grant for the Minneola Area Economic Development Facility and the construction of N. Hancock Road.

Sincerely,

Leslie Campione  
Chairman

LC:jh

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 7800 ♦ 315 W. MAIN ST. ♦ SUITE 316 ♦ TAVARES, FL 32778-7800 ♦ P 352.343.9850 ♦ F 352.343.9495  
*Board of County Commissioners ♦ www.lakecountyfl.gov*

RESOLUTION

2011 - 101

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TURNPIKE INTERCHANGE AT MILE MARKER 279 IN LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of Minneola, Florida, has approved a Development of Regional Impact which includes the construction of a Turnpike Interchange at mile marker 279 in Lake County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Development of Regional Impact includes significant square footage of industrial, office and commercial development, all of which would create employment opportunities for residents of Lake County; and

WHEREAS, such Turnpike Interchange would also make significant traffic improvements which would reduce congestion on SR 50 and other Lake County roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners determines that it is of critical importance to the residents of Lake County that such Turnpike Interchange be constructed; and

WHEREAS, such Turnpike Interchange is proposed as a public private partnership between the Turnpike Enterprise and property owners in the area; and

WHEREAS, the successful completion of this project is important to the future economic success of Lake County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, as follows:

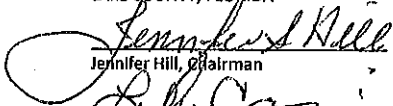
Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners supports the efforts of the Florida Turnpike Enterprise, the Lake Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and Family Dynamics, LLC, the property owner of the property upon which the Florida Turnpike Interchange shall be constructed, among others, to plan, finance, and construct a Florida Turnpike Interchange at mile marker 279 within the city limits of the City of Minneola.

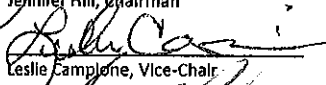
Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners hereby directs the County Manager to offer technical, administrative, and staff support and to assist with the coordination between the public and private entities to help make this Interchange a reality.

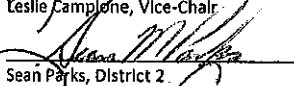
Section 3. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

DONE AND RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida in regular session this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2011.

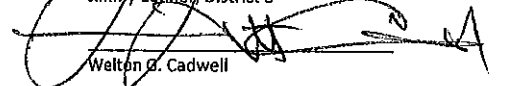
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

  
Jennifer Hill, Chairman

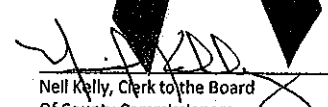
  
Leslie Campione, Vice-Chair

  
Sean Parks, District 2

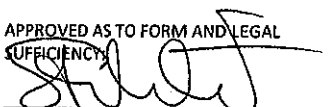
  
Jimmy Conner, District 3

  
Welton G. Cadwell

ATTEST:

  
Neil Kelly, Clerk to the Board  
Of County Commissioners  
Lake County, Florida

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL  
SUFFICIENCY

  
Sanford A. Minkoff  
County Attorney



**SOUTH LAKE**  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

620 W. Montrose Street  
Clermont, FL 34711  
Phone 352-394-4191 Fax 352-394-5799

May 20, 2013

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for the Interchange in Minneola, Florida

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The South Lake Chamber of Commerce in Central Florida consists of more than 750 members and business partners. Our members include small businesses, large businesses, elected officials and five cities. They have all come together for the common purpose of improving the business climate and increasing commerce in south Lake County and the State of Florida.

Our organization has been involved with the Turnpike Interchange Project for many years. This exciting project is expected to bring more than 5,000 jobs and \$1 billion of economic investment into our area while providing much needed traffic relief on several of our main east-west arteries.

The South Lake Chamber of Commerce strongly supports this interchange project and the efforts of the State of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise; Lake-Sumter M.P.O.; Lake County, Florida; City of Minneola, Florida; and the Minneola Mountain Properties C.R.A. in their efforts to be awarded the T.I.G.E.R. Grant. This grant is the keystone to creating jobs, reducing unemployment, encouraging private investment and increasing the financial stability of south Lake County and the State of Florida.

The South Lake Chamber of Commerce whole-heartedly supports the T.I.G.E.R. Grant request for the Interchange in Minneola, Florida.

Sincerely,

Ray San Fratello, President  
South Lake Chamber of Commerce

*Clermont • Groveland • Mascotte • Minneola • Montverde • Four Corners*

[www.SouthLakeChamber-FL.com](http://www.SouthLakeChamber-FL.com)

May 28, 2013

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for the Interchange in Minneola, Florida

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As the leading economic development organization for the counties of Orange, Seminole, Lake and Osceola, as well as and the City of Orlando in the State of Florida, the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission (EDC) is dedicated to meeting the needs of today's industries and creating a competitive economic climate where businesses can thrive.

We understand that one of our regional partners, Lake County, has been involved in the Turnpike Interchange Project for many years and believe that this is an exciting opportunity that can bring more than 5,000 jobs and \$1 billion of economic investment into the Metro Orlando region, while at the same time provide much needed traffic relief to several of our main east-west arteries.

The Metro Orlando EDC supports this interchange project and the efforts of the State of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise; Lake-Sumter M.P.O.; Lake County, Florida; City of Minneola, Florida; and the Minneola Mountain Properties C.R.A. in their efforts to be awarded the T.I.G.E.R. Grant. This grant is a major key to creating jobs, reducing unemployment, encouraging private investment and increasing the financial stability of south Lake County and the State of Florida.

The Metro Orlando EDC strongly supports the T.I.G.E.R. Grant request for the Interchange in Minneola, Florida.

Sincerely,



Rick L. Weddle  
President and CEO



***Leading our Students to Success***

201 West Burleigh Boulevard · Tavares · FL 32778-2496  
(352) 253-6500 · Fax: (352) 343-0198 · [www.lake.k12.fl.us](http://www.lake.k12.fl.us)

**Superintendent:**  
Susan Moxley, Ed.D.

**School Board Members:**  
*District 1*  
Bill Mathias  
*District 2*  
Rosanne Brandenburg  
*District 3*  
Tod Howard  
*District 4*  
Debbie Stivender  
*District 5*  
Kyleen Fischer

May 28, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood:

As the Superintendent of Lake County Schools I would like to lend my support to the efforts being made by the City of Minneola, Minneola Mountain C.R.A., Lake County, Lake-Sumter M.P.O., Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, and F.D.O.T. to secure a federal T.I.G.E.R. Grant. It is anticipated that the grant funds will be used to design and construct a new Turnpike Interchange as well as feeder roads and bike and pedestrian paths for the communities of south Lake County. Hopefully this much needed infrastructure will reduce traffic and congestion near our schools as well as provide safe access for our students walking and biking to school.

In closing let me lend my support for a grant that will help us reduce traffic congestion near our schools, support bicycle and pedestrian access for our students, and provide funding for infrastructure improvements in our community.

Sincerely,

Susan Moxley, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

SM/pjp



# Lake Sumter State College

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 29, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood:

On behalf of Lake-Sumter State College, I want to lend my enthusiastic support to the proposed TIGER grant project for the Minneola Turnpike Interchange, feeder roads and trail network. South Lake is a vibrant community whose growth has outstripped the capacity of the roads network. Because the area has a high concentration of workers commuting out of the county, there is great pressure on the roads to Orlando. A Turnpike Interchange would alleviate much of this pressure while also taking cars off secondary roads such as those leading to our South Lake Campus. As a result, the commute for our students and parents/students at area K-12 schools would be less congested and far safer.

In addition, the health benefits of reduced carbon emissions from idling vehicles would help us maintain the quality of life in this outdoor-oriented wellness-conscious community. The trails would further enhance health benefits by encouraging more students and adults to exercise and even utilize the trails in lieu of automobiles. As an institution of higher education we strongly support efforts to promote "going green" and improving healthy lifestyles.

I also believe that the Turnpike Interchange would promote economic development in the South Lake Area by making the area more accessible. This would lead to jobs right here in our community that our students and graduates need, and at the same time reduce the number of residents having to commute to Orlando.

I urge you to support this worthy TIGER grant request.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Mojock, Ed.D.  
President

L E E S B U R G ♦ S U M T E R ♦ S O U T H L A K E

9501 U.S. HIGHWAY 441 ♦ LEESBURG, FLORIDA ♦ 34788-8751 ♦ P: 352.365.3523 ♦ W: LSSC.EDU





1900 Don Wickham Drive  
Clermont, FL 34711  
352.394.4071

southlakehospital.com

May 29, 2013

Ray LaHood, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for the Interchange in Minneola, Florida

Dear Secretary LaHood:


South Lake Hospital is a community hospital located in Clermont, Florida. Our 180 acre health, wellness and education campus provides a complete continuum of care to the citizens of the south Lake community. South Lake Hospital is also home to the National Training Center, which provides fitness, advanced rehabilitative services and serves as a training site for Olympic level athletes. In addition, thousands of athletes and family members attend various sporting events on the campus each year.

South Lake Hospital has been involved with the Turnpike Interchange Project for many years. This exciting project is expected to bring more than 5,000 jobs and \$1 billion of economic investment into our area, while providing much needed traffic relief. This grant is the keystone to creating jobs, reducing unemployment, encouraging private investment and increasing the financial stability of south Lake County and the State of Florida.

South Lake Hospital and the National Training Center strongly support this interchange project and the efforts of the State of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise; Lake-Sumter M.P.O.; Lake County, Florida; City of Minneola, Florida; and the Minneola Mountain Properties C.R.A. in their efforts to be awarded the T.I.G.E.R. Grant.

South Lake Hospital and the National Training Center whole-heartedly support the T.I.G.E.R. Grant request for the Interchange in Minneola, Florida.

Sincerely,



John A. Moore  
President



May 30, 2013

Secretary Ray LaHood  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: T.I.G.E.R Grant**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

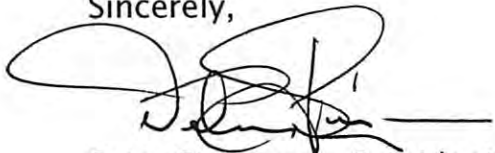
We are providing this letter in support of the T.I.G.E.R. grant to construct the Turnpike Interchange and Hancock Road and to commit to the interchange to provide regional interconnectivity. We are all very much aware of the need for roadway capacity improvements in the south Lake County area and to the regional system. In addition, this regional network will be a catalyst for existing entitled projects and the roads to service them. One of these much needed projects is the northern extension of Hancock Road to North Grassy Lake Road with an improved connection to US 27, providing an alternative route for current and future traffic to US 27 from south Clermont to the north Minneola area. Additionally, and as you are aware, the planned introduction of a new interchange on Florida's Turnpike that would link the Hancock Extension to the Turnpike from the north and south would provide much needed relief to SR 50 and certain sections of US 27 while connecting the roadway network north of the Turnpike into the Clermont grid.

The Hills of Minneola development team and their consultants have worked with the Turnpike Enterprise and Lake County transportation consultants on the Hancock Extension PD & E Study to develop a design and alignment concept that will satisfy both of these important roadway improvement needs. Our planners and designers have coordinated on the location, alignment, right of way requirements and the design of intersections as they link the Hancock Extension to the intersection with North Grassy Lake and ultimately to the future interchange. We have reached an agreement on the conceptual design for each of these elements and are now prepared to offer our commitment to the County and the City of Minneola for support of these plans.

The need for right of way and construction assistance on the Hancock Extension project has been indicated as an important step in the implementation of final design and future construction of these facilities. As you are aware, the Hills of Minneola project has approval to develop the first phase of the project prior to construction of the Turnpike Interchange but cannot proceed beyond that stage until the interchange is completed. This construction will necessarily include the completion of the major collector to the interchange south of the Turnpike and the appropriate connection to the Hancock Road Extension, all within the limits of the Hills of Minneola DRI. The completed concept plan that has been reviewed and accepted by the Lake County transportation consultant indicates the need to modify the alignment of the Hancock Extension and the connecting section of North Grassy Lake Road to form an appropriate intersection of the Hancock Extension that would then be the primary "feed" to the interchange. This modification to the original plan prepared during the PD & E Study will require the transition of the Hancock Extension east and away from the existing Turkey Farm Road alignment and require the acquisition of additional right of way from the DRI property. However, the final roadway network plan will be much improved and establish the hierarchy of the roadways in this area that would focus on the connection to the Turnpike Interchange.

As outlined above, we have committed the necessary right of way to initiate construction of Hancock Road to connect to the Turnpike. We support the City's efforts in obtaining a T.I.G.E.R. grant and acknowledge that construction of these roadways will provide a significant regional benefit, provide job opportunities, and is a catalyst in economic recovery.

Sincerely,



Peter Strimenos, President  
Family Dynamics, Inc.



*Patricia M. Strong*  
5/30/13

May 30, 2013

Mr. Mark Johnson, City Manager  
City of Minneola  
800 N. US Hwy. 27  
Minneola, FL 34715

**Re: T.I.G.E.R Grant**

Dear Mark:

We are providing this letter in support of the T.I.G.E.R. grant to construct the Turnpike Interchange and Hancock Road and to commit to the interchange to provide regional interconnectivity. We are all very much aware of the need for roadway capacity improvements in the south Lake County area and to the regional system. In addition, this regional network will be a catalyst for existing entitled projects and the roads to service them. One of these much needed projects is the northern extension of Hancock Road to North Grassy Lake Road with an improved connection to US 27, providing an alternative route for current and future traffic to US 27 from south Clermont to the north Minneola area. Additionally, and as you are aware, the planned introduction of a new interchange on Florida's Turnpike that would link the Hancock Extension to the Turnpike from the north and south would provide much needed relief to SR 50 and certain sections of US 27 while connecting the roadway network north of the Turnpike into the Clermont grid.

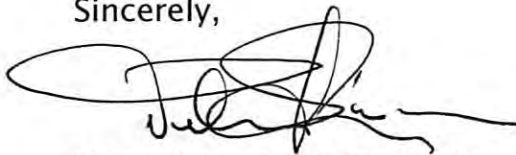
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Sincerely,



Peter Strimenos, President  
Family Dynamics, Inc.



*Patricia M. Strong*  
5/30/2013



1111 METROPOLITAN AVE, STE 700  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28204  
Mailing: P.O. BOX 36799  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28236-6799  
704.206.8300 | WWW.COLLETT.BIZ

VIA E-MAIL: [mjohnson@minneola.us](mailto:mjohnson@minneola.us)

May 29, 2013

Mr. Mark Johnson  
City of Minneola

**RE: Minneola Turnpike Interchange Development Corridor**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Collett & Associates has serious interest in developing a large shopping center at the southwest quadrant of the proposed Minneola Turnpike Interchange. Our interest is dependent on the interchange improvement which we hope will happen in the near future.

Our company has developed approximately 15,000,000 square feet throughout the United States and is excited about the opportunity in Minneola. We are confident that we can deliver a sizeable project to your fine community, but we need the regional access (interstate interchange) to make our project viable.

Please give me a call with any questions or comments. Thank you for the opportunity.

Sincerely,

John Collett  
Partner

JC/lfe

cc: Leslie Hunt  
Steve Brandon



911 Outer Road  
Orlando, FL 32814

p: 407-206-9300  
f: 407-206-9333  
www.RoyalOakHomesFL.com

May 28, 2013

Mr. Ray Lahood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Lahood,

This letter is intended to express our support and enthusiasm for the on-going and future development in Minneola, FL. As a local, family owned new home builder in the market, we are very excited to see the Minneola Interchange become a reality and believe that the growth in the corridor will create one of the 3 prime corridors in all of Central Florida. Equally important, it will be able to maintain housing within a close proximity to downtown Orlando within a relatively affordable price point.

Royal Oak Homes is excited to have 2 projects already under contract in the area and we anticipate building homes from the high 100's to the mid 300's with a variety of product offerings. As a newly developing area, the existence of additional road infrastructure will be critical to improving the look, feel, and accessibility to the new residential and commercial centers. The impact of these roads would also go beyond impacting just the city of Minneola, but the north west corridor of Central Florida as a whole. Areas such as Mount Dora, Eustis, Sorrento, and Tavares were all heavily impacted by the recession. Growth in Minneola will help to spur some rejuvenation in those areas by increasing traffic and spurring economic activity to the much needed commercial centers in the area.

We have also been incredibly excited to work with the team at the City of Minneola. They have shown terrific foresight in protecting their community long term while still being proactive in spurring economic development in the area. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Orosz", written over a horizontal line.

Matt Orosz  
Co-President  
MOrosz@RoHFL.com



**HANOVER**  
Capital Partners, LLC  
Real Estate Development/Investments

May 24, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.  
West building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Lahood:

Minneola Florida is a great city that is working very hard with builders and developers to create new housing opportunities and jobs. Minneola and the area around the new Turnpike interchange is projected to be one of the 3 major growth corridors in the Orlando MSA. The new development is planned to be a good mix of residential, commercial, office, industrial and medical space. It will also have ample green space, parks and amenities for its residents. Minneola is working very hard to plan a well rounded community and we are excited to be a part of it. Hanover Capital Partners has a 200 acre piece of ground under contract that we are scheduled to close on in the first quarter of next year. The project is 1 mile west of the new interchange and is projected to consist of 650-700 50' and 70' lots. It will have internal amenities that will compliment the public facilities well. In addition to developing this project, our building company has another site under contract to buy on a takedown basis from another developer. The money for roads would help the city continue to help builders and developers create new sustainable neighborhoods and jobs in the community. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Ben Snyder

Vice President of Land Acquisition and Development



May 24, 2013

Secretary Ray LaHood  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup>. Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for the new Florida Turnpike Interchange in Minneola, Florida.

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We are writing you to secure your support for a T.I.G.E.R. Grant to construct a four lane road (Hancock Road) to connect with the new Mineola Interchange on the Florida Turnpike.

Center Lake Properties has an approved development plan for 1000 plus homes. We have been collaborating with the Lake County Department of Public Works for the past 10 years. Our company has spent several hundred thousand dollars in planning and design on this project for the development of our property and road networks. We have made available to the county the necessary "right of way" to initiate construction of Hancock Road to connect to the turnpike.

Thank you for your consideration and support. The local economy will benefit greatly from the results of the T.I.G.E.R Grant.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Gonzalez  
Vice President  
Pineloch Management Corporation





May 24, 2013

Mr. Ray Lahood  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Lahood:

As real estate developers and local property owners, the recent accomplishments of the City of Minneola, Lake County, the Florida Department of Transportation, the Florida Turnpike Authority and the land owners and citizens of Minneola is and will be the inception to a game changing environment for not only the citizens of Minneola but the entire region of Central Florida.

With the development of the new interchange at mile marker 279 and the supporting road network, the growth potential of that region will exponentially increase throughout the next decade. This region of Central Florida has experienced tremendous growth over the past ten years as a natural expansion of the Orlando MSA. This growth has naturally progressed along the State Road 50 corridor and saturated the area beyond the capacity of that corridor to effectively handle the subsequent traffic. With the opening of the new mile marker 279 interchange, you are effectively building a new front door to the entire region and opening up thousand's of acres of new homes, shopping centers, hospitals, distribution centers and dynamic new enclaves where residents can live, work and play. This geographic anomaly of inserting a major access point on the Florida Turnpike into an area that has experienced tremendous growth, only stifled by the limits of transportation, is unprecedented in this region and maybe in the nation.

We as landowners adjacent to the new interchange are dependent upon the connection of Citrus Grove Road to the interchange to proceed with the development of our 963 residential units. We will continue to support any and all efforts to bring this decade old plan to build this interchange and regional road network to fruition. We would request you give serious consideration to providing what Federal assets are available to you to ensure that this significant private/public partnership has the necessary resources to complete this task.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DRR', is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel R. Robison  
Westhaven Development, LLC

DRR/scr

May 30, 2013

Daniel Robison  
Broker/President  
Westhaven Real Estate, LLC  
Re: Letter of Interest

Dear Mr. Robison,

As we have been discussing over the past months David Weekley Homes has an interest into moving into this submarket provided the Turnpike interchange would be installed soon. Conditions on S.R. 50 continue to become more of a challenge and the potential to have more land in another location in close proximity is ideal. The building of Hancock Road and Citrus Grove Road would be huge for this market.

We look forward to continuing our discussions as a preferred Builder in your community.

Sincerely,



Ken McDonald  
Division President  
David Weekley Homes



RICHLAND

---

Mike Byer  
400 N. Ashley Drive, Suite 3010  
Tampa, FL 33602  
May 31, 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C 20590

**Re: TIGER V Grant Application**

Dear Mr. Lahood:

As a land owner / developer in Lake County and more specifically the City of Minneola I am pleased to write to you this letter in strong support of a grant application submitted to your department by Florida's Turnpike Enterprise for Lake County. This grant which will obtain financing for the Minneola Area Economic Development Facility will allow for the development of a critical roadway connection to a new interchange for Florida's Turnpike located near our property.

The proposed new interchange on Florida's Turnpike in southern Lake County has been in the planning stages for many years, and is close to becoming a reality. Without this interchange development this large area of undeveloped land will likely remain stagnant for many years to come, but by building this interchange we can jump start economic development of a variety of mixed uses. This project offers enormous benefit for the entire central Florida region. Funding this critical and last remaining piece of the puzzle will guarantee the timely completion and development of a critical regional project.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to read this letter and your consideration of the long-term benefits of the TIGER V grant application for the central Florida region.

Sincerely,

Mike Byer  
Richland Communities, LLC



May 28, 2013

Mr. Mark Johnson, City Manager  
City of Minneola  
800 N. US Hwy. 27  
Minneola, FL 34715

**Re: T.I.G.E.R Grant for the Minneola Turnpike Interchange**

Dear Mark:

LPG Urban and Regional Planners, Inc. as the city planning consultant would like to offer this letter of support for the T.I.G.E.R. grant. The turnpike interchange will provide many regional benefits such as a hurricane evacuation route, future regional multi-modal transportation network, regional employment center, and provide a direct connection to a national shipping corridor by providing a link to four international airports and two international shipping ports which will enhance domestic and foreign trade opportunities. The economic benefits to the region include, but not limited to, the provision of job opportunities; increased access to goods, services and entertainment; increased competition with resulting cost savings for consumers; and, an improved business environment.

The interchange is located within a Community Redevelopment Area which will benefit both economically and socially. The positive social benefits from economic development include: the provision of additional opportunities for social interaction; an improved sense of place and community; workforce development; educational options; increased career opportunities, and; increased economic vitality which is essential for the long term viability of communities.

We support the City's efforts in obtaining the grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg A. Beliveau', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Greg A. Beliveau, AICP

May 29, 2013



Sumter Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
West Bldg. 9<sup>th</sup> FL  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: T.I.G.E.R. Grant Request for an Interchange in Minneola, Florida

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Sumter Electric Cooperative (SECO) serves 180,000 customers and their families in seven counties in Central Florida. One of our primary service areas is Lake County where we have over 55,000 customers and where we have seen a growing need for an interchange in the south end of that county.

Our experience is that there is a great need for traffic relief in south Lake County and so we are extremely supportive of the application for a T.I.G.E.R. grant to build a Turnpike interchange in Minneola, Florida.

We view this as a critical need for a variety of reasons:

- It will reduce traffic congestion on Highway 50 and Highway 27
- It will reduce carbon emissions through the reduction of vehicle trips and time spent (which is often considerable) by vehicles sitting at a standstill and idling
- It will foster more employment opportunities for area residents
- It will be a catalyst for retaining existing business and attracting new business to the area
- It will allow emergency medical services to respond to Turnpike crashes in a much more accelerated fashion

It is our strong conviction that this proposed project is critically needed at this juncture. And, we know this is a project that will result in many positive outgrowths.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry Bowman".

Barry Bowman, CRMP  
Director of Corporate Communications  
and Energy Services

PO Box 301  
330 S US Hwy 301  
Sumterville, FL 33585  
352.793.3801

50 W Ardice Avenue  
Eustis, FL 32726  
352.357.5600

850 N Howey Road  
Groveland, FL 34736  
352.429.2195

610 US Hwy 41 South  
Inverness, FL 34450  
352.726.3944

4872 SW 60th Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34474  
352.237.4107



May 29, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.  
West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I wanted to write you as present CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Lake Sumter, FL. Additionally I am also the previous CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Washington, DC. Being good friends with your appointed COO of the Federal Aviation Administration's Air Traffic Control Organization, David Grizzle, I am always interested in advancing opportunity for community development as it pertains to our transportation system.

As a community partner with Lake County Florida I want to encourage your consideration of awarding the federal T.I.G.E.R. Grant supporting the Turnpike Interchange, including feeder roads, and development of a subsequent trail network for our community here in central Florida. Some of the benefits it will provide and create include:

- Reduction of traffic congestion on Highway 50 and Highway 27.
- Reduction of carbon emissions from the reduction of vehicle trips and time spent from vehicles idling.
- Reductions of childhood obesity by having the children within a two mile radius walk to school.
- Provision for more employment opportunities to area residents.
- Enabling emergency medical services to have a faster response time to crashes on the Turnpike.
- Advances the areas health and wellness initiative by making more walk able communities, and
- Allowing for the potential for more community partners and financial support to help Habitat's efforts to help citizens with affordable housing in Lake County.

As a key non-profit stakeholder in our community I want to assure you that Lake County and its citizens will be great stewards of the award that will pay great dividends for many years to come. Habitat for Humanity of Lake Sumter, FL would like to encourage you and your staff to please consider the value and benefit such an award can have on the safety and well-being of our entire community.

While serving as CEO of Habitat in the District I was a Leadership Greater Washington graduate in 2010. During that time I was blessed to attend sessions in your facility there in Washington. Be assured of my commitment and appreciation for your service and for those like my good friend David Grizzle. Thank you for your consideration.

With gratitude and appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kent Adcock".

Kent Adcock  
Chief Executive Officer  
Habitat for Humanity Lake-Sumter, FL

**Kent Adcock, CEO**

**PO Box 186  
Eustis, Florida 32727  
[kent@habitatls.org](mailto:kent@habitatls.org)**

**(352) 483-0434 ext. 11**



Smart Growth  
for your  
*Business*

May 29, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.  
West building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

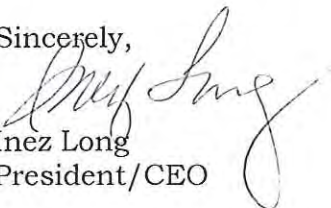
Dear Mr. LaHood:

On behalf of the Black Business Investment Fund, I want to lend my support to the proposed T.I.G.E.R grant project for the Minneola Turnpike Interchange, feeder roads and trail network. This exciting project is expected to bring more than 5,000 jobs and \$1 billion of economic investment into the area and our organization is looking forward to partnering with Lake County, City of Minneola and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise to ensure that minority, women and small businesses will have business opportunities and be positively impacted by this project.

The Black Business Investment Fund strongly supports this interchange project and the efforts of the State of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, Lake County and City of Minneola in their efforts with the T.I.G.E.R Grant. We believe that this grant will be an economic engine that will create jobs, reduce unemployment, create business opportunities and improve the financial stability of Lake County and the State of Florida.

The Black Business Investment Fund enthusiastically supports the T.I.G.E.R Grant request for the interchange in Minneola, Florida and look forward to establishing community partnerships and financial support to help our efforts in assisting minority, women and small businesses with the increased business opportunities that this grant will provide.

Sincerely,



Inez Long  
President/CEO

*Investors*



URBAN TRUST  
BANK

*Partners*



CHASE



CAPITAL PLAZA TWO: 301 EAST PINE STREET, SUITE 175 • ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32801

TELEPHONE: (407) 649-4780 • FAX: (407) 649-8688

WEBSITE: [WWW.BBIF.COM](http://WWW.BBIF.COM)



Alfresco Acquisitions LLC

15019 Pendio Drive

Montverde

FL 34756

May 30, 2013

Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary

US Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.

West Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor

Washington, D.C. 20590

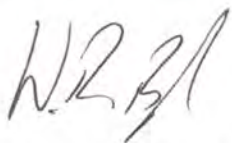
RE: TIGER V GRANT: Minneola Area Economic Development Facility

Dear Mr. LaHood,

Alfresco Acquisitions is writing you in support of a grant application submitted by the Florida Turnpike Enterprise for Lake County to obtain funding for the Minneola Area Economic Development Facility project.

We feel certain that upon completion, this interchange project will provide an enormous benefit to this area of Lake County. As owner of a mixed use development less than one mile of this interchange, we feel certain that the funding for this project will offer a much needed boost to job creation and economic development .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.R. Boylan', written in a cursive style.

William R. Boylan, President

Alfresco Acquisitions, LLC



Mr. Ray LaHood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.  
West building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood,

As a District Manager with Duke Energy, I am writing in support of the federal TIGER Grant to install a turnpike interchange in Minneola, Florida. The entire region is excited about the possibilities the interchange would bring to this area of south Lake County.

Having an interchange would provide greater access to this area while relieving congestion on US 27 and Highway 50. It will also be the catalyst for economic development opportunities that will infuse capital into the area leading to more jobs for current residents and hope for our future workforce – our children. This project is not a new idea, it has been part of the area plan for many years and now has the opportunity to become a reality.

I would appreciate your support and please know the investment will drive a stronger and more sustainable Lake County for generations to come. Thanks for all that you and your department do for the great State of Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald R. Miller".

Gerald R. Miller  
District Manager  
Duke Energy