Congress of the United States Washington, D.C. 20515

April 4, 2017

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart Chairman House Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable David Price Ranking Member House Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Price:

We write to request that you support job creation through infrastructure investment by providing \$1.25 billion for the TIGER program in the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2018.

TIGER – formally known as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery – is a nationwide competitive grant program that creates jobs by funding investments in transportation infrastructure by states, local governments, and transit agencies. The TIGER program funds projects that will have a significant regional impact and deliver benefits in five critical national objectives, including safety, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, quality of life, and environmental sustainability.

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) just released its report card on our nation's infrastructure and gave our country a grade of "D+". ASCE estimates that we will need to invest \$4.59 trillion by 2025 in order to repair our infrastructure.

Robust funding for TIGER will help to bring our nation's transportation infrastructure into the 21st century. TIGER grants have helped to finance a wide variety of innovative projects building and repairing roads, bridges, public transit systems, ports, rail lines, and bicycle and pedestrian networks. Moreover, TIGER encourages cooperation between agencies and jurisdictions and often funds multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects that are difficult to support through traditional transportation programs.

Safe, efficient transportation networks benefit the economy by facilitating the movement of goods and services and benefit individuals and communities by improving access to work, school, health facilities, shopping, and entertainment opportunities.

We therefore urge you to provide \$1.25 billion for TIGER grants in FY 2018. We appreciate your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

Maxine Waters

Elicabeth H. Esty

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