



Transit Action Network

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May 23, 2013

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

RE: KCATA/JCT TIGER V Grant Application for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)
Buses and Related Facility Improvements Modifications

Dear Secretary LaHood,

Transit Action Network, the Kansas City region's most effective grassroots transit advocacy organization, supports the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority and Johnson County Transit in their joint application for a TIGER V grant to purchase vehicles that use Compressed Natural Gas ((CNG), and to make necessary facility modifications to accommodate CNG. This upgrade will allow the public transit fleet vehicles to operate with cleaner, less costly alternative fuels.

Air quality benefits are already noticeable around the country where CNG conversions are happening. The Kansas City region is expected to become a non-attainment air quality region as early as next year, so it is very important to speed up the conversion to cleaner vehicles. A \$10,000,000 TIGER V grant for cleaner buses and related facility modifications would greatly benefit our region's air quality.

In addition, operating funds are always difficult to come by, so the financial benefits of switching to a cheaper fuel helps the community maintain service levels, which is a goal shared by all of us.

We fully support this TIGER V grant application.

Janet Rogers

Mark McDowell,

Ron McLinden,

Co-conveners, **Transit Action Network**