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September 9, 2009

Mr. Mark Huffer
Kansas City Area Transportation Authority
1200 E. 18th Street
Kansas City, MO 64108

RE: Downtown Kansas City Streetcar

Dear Mark:

The Downtown Council is pleased to support and endorse the Downtown Kansas City Streetcar Project. The Downtown Council believes that an effective public transit system is needed to sustain the positive momentum of Downtown development and to grow a healthy, diverse Downtown economy.

The Downtown streetcar will create economic opportunity and energy in Kansas City, increase property values and revive development along the line. Additionally, streetcars offer a "green solution" to our transit needs, taking automobiles off our roads. The streetcar will not only increase mobility throughout our urban center, but could serve as the foundation for a future regional system spurring growth throughout the entire Kansas City region.

It is the Downtown Council's hope that the Downtown Kansas City Streetcar project will receive funds through the Transit Investment Generating Economic Recovery capital funding grant to ensure that the plan for an effective public transit system comes to fruition.

Sincerely,

Bill Dietrich
President/CEO