

April 25, 2005

(US Delegation)

Re: TEA-LU

Dear: (Congresswoman Brown, Congressman Stearns, Senator Bill Nelson):

First of all, on behalf of the City of Gainesville, we would like to thank you for the leadership role you have played in securing critically needed transportation funding for our region. We cannot overstate the importance of these infrastructure investments, or our appreciation for the role that you have played in advancing our needs. We do recognize, however, that the upcoming final negotiations on the transportation authorization legislation will be challenging, and that there will be intense competition among states and regions for these transportation resources. Your continuing support and advocacy will be more important than ever, and we in Gainesville and Alachua County know how well we are already represented and supported.

The House-passed legislation included the following projects for our region:

Gainesville RTS Facility	•	\$4 million
Gainesville Bus Acquisition	•	\$4 million
Depot Ave/Downtown Revitalization Initiative, related roadway improvements	•	\$6 million
Gainesville RTS Bus Rapid Transit Study	•	\$500,000
Gainesville Regional Airport	•	\$2 million
Reconstruction University Ave-to-NE 8th Ave	•	\$2 million
Reconstruction NE 3rd Ave-to-NE 8th Ave	•	\$1 million
North-South Corridor between Archer Rd and Newberry Road to provide congestion relief to the I-75 Corridor	•	\$5 million

Each of these projects is critically important to the overall goals of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization's *Livable Communities Reinvestment Plan* for the Gainesville Metropolitan Area. Both the City of Gainesville and Alachua County have placed preservation of the viability of the transportation system as a priority.

We now wish to reiterate our support, and our sincere hope that the Senate and the Final House-Senate conference agreement on this legislation will advance these important projects.

Sincerely,

Pegeen Hanrahan

Mayor