Location: Carbondale, Illinois

Project Type: Urban – Transit – Multi-Modal Center

Applicant: City of Carbondale

Type of Applicant: City Government TIGER Funding

Requested: $14.64 Million DUNS Number: 096712948

Website: Multi-Modal.explorecarbondale.com
Letters of Project Support

United States Congress

- Senator Dick Durbin, Assistant Democratic Leader
- Senator Tammy Duckworth
- Representative Mike Bost, 12th District Illinois
- Representative John Shimkus, 15th District Illinois

Illinois Senators and Representatives

- State Senator Paul Schimpf, 58th District
- State Senator Dale Fowler, 59th District
- State Representative Terri Bryant, 115th District
- State Representative Natalie Phelps-Finnie, 118th District
- State Representative Dave Severin, 117th District

Illinois State

- Randall S. Blankenhorn, Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation
- Mark Peterson, Intersect Illinois
- Kim Watson, Senior Account Manager, Southern Region, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
- Benjamin J. Brockschmidt, Vice President of Policy, Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Regional Transportation Partners

- William N. Feidt, Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, Amtrak
- Stephen Abernathy, AICP, CTPA, Senior Manager, Intermodal Partnerships, Greyhound Lines

Local Governmental Agencies & Organizations

- John S. Rendleman, Jackson County Board Chairman
- Les O’Dell, Executive Director, Carbondale Chamber of Commerce
- Meghan Cole, Carbondale Main Street
- Diana Brawley-Sussman, Director, Carbondale Public Library
- Kathy Renfro, Executive Director, Carbondale Park District

Educational Establishments

- Brian Chapman, PhD, Southern Illinois University System President’s Office
- Kyle L. Harfst, PhD, Executive Director, Southern Illinois University Economic Development
- Dennis White, Director, Center for Business & Industry, John A. Logan College
- Stephen Murphy, Superintendent, Carbondale Community High School District 165
Regional & Local Planning Agencies

- Bill Jung, Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Cary Minnis, Executive Director, Greater Egypt Regional Planning & Development Commission

Regional & Local Mass Transit Districts

- Bill Jung, Chief Executive Officer, Rides Mass Transit District
- Ted Gutierrez, Managing Director, Jackson County Mass Transit
- Sheila Niederhofer, Managing Director, South Central Illinois Mass Transit District
- Shawn Freeman, Executive Director, Shawnee Mass Transit District

Local Business & Industries

- Cinnamon Wheeles-Smith, Executive Director, Carbondale Tourism
- Rex Duncan, Executive Director, Champion Community Investments
- Woody Thorne, Vice President, Community Affairs, Southern Illinois Healthcare
- Kathy Lively, Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board
- Greg Sprehe, President, Compac International
- Dr. Jane Cogie, Board Chair, Shawnee Group Sierra Club
- Chris Swims, Senior Pastor, Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church
- George Sheffer, President, Murdale True Value
- Jamie Perryman, President, Jackson-Union County Habitat for Humanity
- Elaine Ramseyer, General Manager, Longbranch Café & Bakery
- Francis Murphy, General Manager, Neighborhood Co-op Grocery
- Rev. Karen Knodt, Interim Pastor, First Christian Church
- Ann Stahlheber, Manager, Carbondale Farmer’s Market
September 28, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the City of Carbondale, Illinois’ application for $14.64 million via the 2017 TIGER Grant Program administered through the U.S. Department of Transportation for their Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project.

This project calls for the construction of a new multimodal facility that will house the region’s public transportation providers, Amtrak and Greyhound bus service, allowing for seamless connections between all modes of transportation. In addition, the project proposes to include the region’s first bike sharing service.

Southern Illinois is a region that has many residents that rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational and healthcare facilities. Collectively, the range of transit services that the Southern Illinois multimodal facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit.

In addition to the improvements that SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to the region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area. Furthermore, this project will be a big step forward in revitalizing and improving the downtown area of Carbondale.

I urge you to give this application the most serious consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at my Springfield office at (217) 492-4062.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

RJD/dl
October 16, 2017

Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Carbondale’s application to the FY 2017 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery ("TIGER") program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will enable the City of Carbondale to complete construction preparation and facilitate much needed economic activity within our region.

Carbondale proposes the construction of a new multimodal transportation center to replace an aging and deteriorating station currently located in the city. The new station will bring together multiple modes of transportation including Amtrak passenger trains, Greyhound buses, Saluki Express Mass Transit, Jackson County Mass Transit, T’des Mass Transit, South Central Illinois Mass Transit in addition to countless local taxis, pedestrians, bicycles and inter-city buses.

The Carbondale Station redevelopment project goes beyond transit improvements as an anchor of the City’s Downtown Master Plan and the Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (SIMPO) 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. The Carbondale Station will include space for retail services to support travelers utilizing the station and foster economic development for the city and surrounding area. Jackson County, which has the highest poverty rate in Illinois, could benefit from this project.

Federal funding for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station project would support the core objectives of the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program by expanding transit options, centralizing existing transportation services and further connecting Carbondale and Southern Illinois.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of Carbondale’s application to the FY 2017 TIGER Discretionary Grants Program. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge you to give Carbondale’s application full and fair consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my Grants Specialist, Dan McManus, by calling (312) 886-3506 or at dan_mcmanus@duckworth.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator
October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building – 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Opportunity (TIGER) IX grant application of a city in my district. The grant application is for the City of Carbondale, Illinois, for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station Project.

Southern Illinois is a region with a high rate of poverty. People in the region depend on regional transportation services to reach employment, education, and healthcare facilities. The Southern Illinois Multimodal Station Project will house 3 regional transit providers. A city and countywide service will be present along with Amtrak and Greyhound bus service. The project will provide expanded transportation options for residents seeking access to facilities within the region.

In addition to expanded public transportation, the project also represents a significant infrastructure investment in the region. The investment would generate a number of construction jobs and create an additional economic impact on the region.

We urge you to give full and fair consideration to this application as permissible within applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to working with you on this and other opportunities to address transportation needs across Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Mike Bost
Member of Congress

John Shimkus
Member of Congress
October 2, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write in support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow Carbondale to complete construction documents and generate much needed economic activity within the region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, as well as educational and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expend options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the transportation improvements, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment in our region that would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area. I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois and thank you for your consideration of Carbondale’s application.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul M. Schimpf
LtCol, USMC (retired)
State Senator, 58th District
October 11, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

State Senator 59th District
October 11, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing to express my support of the city of Carbondale's Application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the city of Carbondale to complete construction and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is home to high poverty rates, and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and health care facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region's first bicycle sharing service.

Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Terri Bryant
State Representative - 115th District
October 11, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
US Dept. of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of City of Carbondale's application for the $14.64 million grant through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When the SIMMS project is complete it will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service and a Carbondale city-wide transit service. All these services are available to the public. The facility will also provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region's first bicycle-sharing service.

The range of services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network. These improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region. In addition, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact.

I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Natasha Phelps Finnie
State Representative
118th District
September 29, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dave Severin - State Representative 117th District
October 11, 2017

Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 9th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20590-9898

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) supports the City of Carbondale’s 2017 “Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER IX)” grant program application. The application seeks $14.6 million in federal TIGER funds for the “Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station” project. The total cost of the project is $18.3 million, which will be matched with $3.7 million from the City of Carbondale.

The project consists of constructing a 15,000 square foot multimodal station that will house offices for three regional transit service providers (RIDES, South Central Illinois Mass Transit District and the Shawnee Mass Transit District), the Jackson County Mass Transit District, the Saluki Express (Southern Illinois University and city-wide transit), Amtrak, Greyhound, and the region’s first bike share system. This facility will allow each of the services to co-locate in the same facility, which will strengthen all of the aforementioned multi-modal transportation linkages. This project represents a major infrastructure investment for the southern Illinois region, and it will allow southern Illinois residents to connect with employment centers, as well as educational and healthcare facilities.

Again, IDOT supports the City of Carbondale’s request for TIGER funds for this project that has been in the planning stages since 2013. The project is considered “shovel ready.” Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Randall S. Blankenhorn
Secretary
October 3, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please consider this letter of support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region heavily dependent upon regional transit services. Because of high poverty and high unemployment, many southern Illinois residents use public transit to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Peterson, CEO/President
Intersect Illinois

Intersect Illinois is a privately funded, not-for-profit, serving as the lead business recruitment and marketing organization for the State of Illinois. Intersect Illinois works in collaboration and partnership with business leaders, state, regional, and local entities actively engaged in economic development. Together they compete for major recruitment and expansion projects on a global basis, resulting in accelerated job growth, capital investment, and wealth creation in the state. Intersect Illinois is taking decisive, focused action to put Illinois back on the path to economic growth and prosperity.
October 12, 2017

Gary Williams, City Manager  
City of Carbondale  
200 S. Illinois Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it's important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale's application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for growth and prosperity. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

All the best,

Kim Watson  
Senior Account Manager
October 2, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

The Illinois Chamber of Commerce supports the City of Carbondale's application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and generate economic activity within the region.

It is important for employees to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. This region relies on on transit to move people and connect them to healthcare facilities as well as new employment and education opportunities. Once completed, this facility will be home to three regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, a Carbondale city-wide transit service, provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and, integrate the region's first bicycle-sharing service.

The range of transit services provided by the SIMMS facility will make it a true regional multimodal asset. Development of similar projects across the country have been shown to improve access throughout their region and provide additional opportunities for businesses to grow and prosper.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Benjamin J. Brockschmidt  
Vice President of Policy
October 13, 2017

Mr. Gary Williams  
City Manager  
200 S. Illinois Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62901

Dear Mr. Williams:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) would like to take this opportunity to express its support for the City of Carbondale, Illinois’ grant application submitted in response to the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the United States Department of Transportation’s (USDOT) National Infrastructure Investments under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, a program also referred to as “TIGER Discretionary Grants.” This Notice announced the availability of $500 million to be awarded by the USDOT for infrastructure projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area, or a region.

Amtrak’s support relates to the project:

Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station

It is our understanding that this project, upon completion, has the potential to improve intercity passenger rail service and benefit the Amtrak system. Based on the information made available to us regarding the project’s eligibility, and subject to the development of such project-specific agreements as USDOT and Amtrak may require, we support this application as a potential candidate for funding. It is Amtrak’s expectation that, prior to the obligation of grant funds for this project, City of Carbondale and Amtrak will discuss resource requirements and Amtrak’s ability to adequately support the Project, and subsequently enter into an agreement setting forth our roles and responsibilities with respect to the project, with terms acceptable to Amtrak.
Mr. Gary Williams
October 13, 2017
Page 2

The advancement of projects like this will not only significantly improve our nation's transportation infrastructure, but will also contribute to the economic competitiveness of the United States. We appreciate your leadership in filing this application and look forward to working with you on this and future opportunities to improve intercity passenger rail transportation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

William N. Feidt
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

cc: The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
October 6, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Abernathy
Senior Manager, Intermodal Partnerships
Greyhound Lines
October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express Jackson County’s support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. We strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John S. Rendleman, Chair
Jackson County Board
Sept. 28, 2016

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing to share with you our organization’s support for the City of Carbondale’s application for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery program grant for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station project. This grant and the subsequent facility is not only much-needed, but will enhance the quality of life of our residents and have significant regional impact.

This facility would house regional transit companies, the countywide public bus system, the city bus system as well as serve Greyhound bus service and Amtrak. Not only would it bring a variety of transportation services together to meet the needs of passengers, but it would serve as a sort of regional hub. Carbondale is the center for medical services in Southern Illinois, so this facility will aid those who are seeking treatment. Additionally, with a proposed location just one mile from Southern Illinois University, the facility would be a tremendous asset to the University and to the thousands of students who rely on rail transportation to come to school.

Of course, the impact for business in our community cannot be overstated. Carbondale and all of Southern Illinois needs this project.

Sincerely,

Les O'Dell
Executive Director
October 12, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC, 20590

To the Honorable Elaine L. Chao:

Carbondale Main Street is excited to submit this letter of support for the City of Carbondale’s application for the TIGER IX grant to move forward the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. Carbondale Main Street, a Main Street America Accredited organization, is dedicated to improving and promoting the downtown district of Carbondale, Illinois. We stand ready to work with leaders and partners in this initiative.

The City of Carbondale, with other partners including our organization, has made considerable investments in recent years to revitalize the downtown area, implementing a new Master Plan, as well as a new streetscape initiative. In introducing a Multimodal station that would create greater access to public transportation opportunities, The City of Carbondale would directly impact our citizens, our region, and our many visitors who currently use the Carbondale Amtrak station in downtown.

We are confident that this opportunity can help to further transform our downtown into a place for all of our citizens and visitors, young and old. The SIMMS project will also bring greatly needed transportation options to our rural region. Thank you in advance for your support for progress in Carbondale, IL.

Sincerely,

Meghan Cole
Executive Director
Carbondale Main Street
October 13, 2017

Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Carbondale Public Library strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region. Thank you for pursuing this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Diana Brawley Sussman, Director
Carbondale Public Library
Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Carbondale Park District strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Kathy Rentro, Executive Director
September 30, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please know that Southern Illinois University strongly supports the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. We are grateful for the city’s efforts to secure much needed safe and reliable public transportation to serve our 15,000 students and 4,000 employees on the Carbondale campus.

In a rural coal mining region like Southern Illinois that is geographically large with high poverty, our residents, students, and employees rely heavily upon various means of regional transit services to transport them to work, school, and medical appointments. This project will create efficiencies and collaborations in publicly funded transportation between distinct transportation entities such as Saluki Express, Jackson County Mass Transit, Rides Mass Transit, Amtrak and Greyhound. As a result, we should expect to see a comprehensive public transportation service that doesn’t currently exist.

In addition, Southern Illinois University believes the development of this project will dramatically improve transportation access not just locally, but throughout the state thereby increasing student access for Southern Illinois University Carbondale to grow and prosper.

Lastly, we appreciate the many high-quality construction jobs this project with generate creating an immediate positive economic impact for an impoverished area of nation.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Brian C. Chapman, PhD, MPA
Executive Director for Regional Outreach and Partnerships
Office of the President
Southern Illinois University System
Stone Center
1400 Douglas Drive
Carbondale, IL 62901-6801
bchapman@siu.edu
618-536-3457
September 27, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

This will serve as a support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region. This grant will also allow the university mass transit service, Saluki Express, to be more aligned with other transportation providers throughout southern Illinois.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Kyle Harfst, PhD
Executive Director
September 27, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region's first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Dennis White
Director
Center for Business and Industry
John A. Logan College

DIRECT EXTENSION ACCESS: (618) 985-2828 or 457-7676
OPERATOR: (618) 985-3741, 549-7335, 542-8612, 937-3438, TTY 985-2752
WEB SITE: http://www.jalc.edu

John A. Logan College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender orientation.
October 11, 2017

Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams,

Carbondale Community High School District #165 strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like Southern Illinois, it’s important for our employees to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Carbondale Station Multimodal project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. The Carbondale station will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Stephen Murphy
Superintendent

SM:lk
October 6, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 9th Floor
Washington, DC 20590-9898

RE: Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization (SIMPO) strongly supports the construction of a multi-modal transportation center in Carbondale. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it is critical for the public to have access to safe, reliable and efficient public transportation. SIMPO fully supports the city of Carbondale’s application for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station project. The proposed station will improve access to multiple public transportation modes (train, bus and local transit) and by combining access to these in one location, efficiency of the regional transportation system will be greatly enhanced.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Bill Jung
SIMPO Policy Board Chairman
October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, 9th Floor
Washington, DC 20590-9898

RE: Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission strongly supports the construction of a multi-modal transportation center in Carbondale. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it is critical for the public to have access to safe, reliable and efficient public transportation. Greater Egypt fully supports the city of Carbondale's application for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station project. The proposed station will improve access to multiple public transportation modes (train, bus and local transit) and by combining access to these in one location, efficiency of the regional transportation system will be greatly enhanced.

Sincerely,

Cary Minnis
Executive Director
September 27, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and build a project that will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

The Carbondale urbanized area is the focal point of services in a region covering the southern third of Illinois and is home to Southern Illinois University. It is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Bill Jung
CEO

30 Veterans Drive • Harrisburg, IL 62946
618-253-8761 • www.ridestmtd.com
October 2, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment: Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Ted J Gutierrez
Managing Director

602 E College Street, Carbondale IL 62901, (618)-549-0304
www.jcmtd.com
September 28, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Sheila Niederhofer
SCT Managing Director

www.southcentraltransit.org
October 11, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Shawn Freeman, MBA
Shawnee Mass Transit District
October 12, 2017

Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

As the Executive Director for Carbondale Tourism, I fully understand the need for safe, reliable, and efficient public transportation within the Southern Illinois region. With this in mind, I am writing this letter in support of the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery IX (TIGER) grant for the Southern Illinois Multi-modal Station (SIMMS) project.

The development of this project will improve access to transportation options throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses to grow and prosper within the region. The SIMMS will be a great amenity to both our community, as well as enhance the economic development of our region.

Sincerely,

Cinnamon Wheeler Smith
Executive Director
September 28, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write to express my strong support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. Full funding for this project will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Champion Community Investments is a 501c3 non-profit corporation dedicated to regional community and economic development. With Jackson County recognized as both the hub of the southern Illinois economy and a persistent poverty county, the SIMMS project as clearly articulated in this proposal would be a significant asset to both community and regional transportation services that are critical for student, patient, employee and visitor ingress and egress. This facility as well as the greater transportation strategy for the City of Carbondale have been planned for a number of years. It is time to turn the strategy – the vision – into a reality that will well serve this city, county, and region for decades to come.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois. Should you require additional information, please feel free to contact me at rduncan@siu.edu or by calling (618) 713-6320. Your consideration is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Rex Duncan
Executive Director
September 27, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this letter of support regarding the City of Carbondale’s grant application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

It is with great enthusiasm that SIH pledges to support this transit system initiative by working with the City of Carbondale. SIH’s Memorial Hospital of Carbondale (MHC) has over 1,100 employees, provides care to over 30,000 patients through its Emergency Department and its outpatient registrations total over 100,000 annually. The hospital produces a significant economic impact for southern Illinois. MHC’s total economic impact to the community and region is over $25,000,000 annually. This initiative will assist SIH patients in Carbondale and will create transportation linkages for additional patients throughout the region. Through the three SIH hospitals; St. Joseph’s Memorial Hospital in Murphysboro, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, and Herrin Hospital, as well as our SIH ambulatory care facilities, inpatient and outpatient health care services are provided to the residents of the southernmost sixteen counties of the state.

Lack of transportation is of concern for many patients who are low-income. Patients miss many medical appointments and simply do not receive needed medical care due to lack of transportation. The improvements that the SIMSS project will provide for public transportation would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 618-457-5200, ext. 67836.

Sincerely,

Woody Thorne, Vice President
Community Affairs

WRT/sm

1239 East Main Street | PO Box 3988
Carbondale, IL 62902-3988
TEL 618-457-5200
FAX 618-529-0568
www.sih.net
September 28, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the executive staff to the Southern Illinois Workforce Development Board, I can attest there is no greater challenge to workforce in rural America than transportation. Therefore, I am writing to express my support of the City of Carbondale's application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

Southern Illinois is a region of high poverty and our residents rely heavily on regional transit services to connect them to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities. When complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service; all of which are public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region's first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region and allow for greater reliable and ease of transportation to work.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lively
Executive Staff to the Southern Illinois Workforce Development Board
C.E.O., Management, Training & Consulting Corp.
June 29, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing today to express my support of the City of Carbondale’s application for $14.64 million through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program for the Southern Illinois Multi-Modal Station (SIMMS) project. This grant will allow the City of Carbondale to complete construction documents and will also help generate much needed economic activity within our region.

My company, Com-Pac International, employs over 265 workers here in Carbondale’s industrial park and I personally observe on a daily basis that many of our employees utilize regional transit services in order to get to and from our production facilities during all three weekday shifts as well as on weekends. Many of these folks are from rural areas of Jackson County and surrounding counties and would not be able to find nor afford other means transportation to our plant. Further, as Carbondale is a regional center for education and healthcare facilities, I am personally aware that many of our workers also use these transport services to connect to educational and vital healthcare services here in the Carbondale area.

My understanding is that when complete, the SIMMS project will house 3 regional transit services, a county-wide mass transit service, and a Carbondale city-wide transit service, all of which will be available as public services. In addition, the facility will provide Amtrak and Greyhound bus services and will also integrate the region’s first bicycle-sharing service. Collectively, the range of transit services that the SIMMS facility will provide will make it a true regional multimodal asset that will strengthen the existing public transportation network, enhance linkages among transit providers, and will incorporate innovative approaches to public transit. Together, these improvements will expand options for our residents to access key facilities within the region.

In addition to the improvements that the SIMMS project will provide for public transportation, this project would be a significant infrastructure investment to our region and would generate many high-quality construction jobs for the area which will generate additional economic impact. As such, I strongly support the use of TIGER funds to help facilitate the development of this critical project for Southern Illinois.
I can be available to personally discuss the above at your convenience at the numbers listed below or on my cell phone at 618-534-2660. Thank you in advance for your consideration of Carbondale’s application for the TIGER funding project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gregory E. Sprohe
President
Com-Pac International, Inc.
800 Industrial Park Road
Carbondale, IL 62901
800.824.0817 Tel.
618.529.2421 Tel.
618.549.8752 Fax
gregorysprehe@com-pac.com
www.com-pac.com
Gary Williams, City Manager  
City of Carbondale  
200 S. Illinois Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Sierra Club strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project.

The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Jae Cogic, Chair  
Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club  
PO Box 117  
Carbondale, IL 62901
October 12, 2017

Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church of Carbondale, IL strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Christopher E. Swims
Senior Pastor
Gary Williams, City Manager  
City of Carbondale  
200 S. Illinois Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Murdale True Value strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

George Sheffer  
President  
Murdale True Value
October 12, 2017

Mr. Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Longbranch Café & Bakery strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like Southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Elaine Ramseyer
General Manager
Longbranch Café & Bakery
100 East Jackson Street
Carbondale, IL 62901
Gary Williams, City Manager  
City of Carbondale  
200 S. Illinois Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62903  

Dear Mr. Williams:

Neighborhood Co-op Grocery strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Francis Murphy  
General Manager
Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

First Christian Church strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like southern Illinois, public transportation is vital for low-income residents, those not able to drive, and those who prefer to use public transportation for environmental reasons. As a church, we are often asked for help with rides to medical appointments, funds for gas, bus and train tickets, and transportation to towns not connected to Carbondale by public transportation.

For those reasons, we enthusiastically support the City of Carbondale's application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. We understand that the development of this project will improve public transportation access throughout the region, benefitting our church members and those we serve. SIMMS will be a much needed help to low-income residents of southern Illinois, those without their own cars, and to those dedicated to using public transportation as a way to live a more environmentally responsible life.

Sincerely,

Rev. Karen Knodt, interim pastor
October 11, 2017

Gary Williams, City Manager
City of Carbondale
200 S. Illinois Avenue
Carbondale, IL 62902

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Farmers Market of Carbondale strongly supports the need for safe and reliable public transportation. In a largely rural region like Southern Illinois, it’s important for our patrons to have public transportation options that move them efficiently within the region. As such, we support the City of Carbondale’s application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IX grant application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station (SIMMS) project. The development of this project will improve access throughout the region and provide additional opportunities for businesses like ours to grow and prosper. SIMMS will be a great amenity that will enhance economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Ann Stahlheber
Manager, Farmers Market of Carbondale