



ALLEGHENY COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

January 5, 2012

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood
Secretary of the U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

RE: Ohio River Trail TCSP Grant Application

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As Director of Allegheny County Economic Development, I strongly support the Ohio River Trail Council's application for a Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program (TCSP) grant for a 2.5-mile bike/pedestrian segment of the Ohio River Trail in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

The implementation of this first segment will benefit other trail projects which are identified as priority projects within Allegheny County's Comprehensive Plan, *Allegheny Places*. The trail will connect important riverfront municipalities to the County's Sports Legacy Project, which is located in three of Allegheny County's municipalities (the Borough of Coraopolis and the Townships of Moon and Robinson). And at that juncture, the trail system will connect to the Montour Trail, a segment of the Great Allegheny Passage. Additionally, Allegheny County and Friends of the Riverfront are engaged in the planning of the extension of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail from the City of Pittsburgh to the Sports Legacy Project.

In addition, the Ohio River Trail is part of the recommendations of *ActiveAllegheny*, the county's comprehensive commuter bike, pedestrian, and complete streets plan. Trail and greenway development supports quality of life and economic development activities.

I look forward to the implementation of an important connecting segment of our trail system.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Darla J. Cravotta, Special Projects Coordinator, at 412-350-4318.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Davin
Director

DJC/AHH/mac

C: Dr. Vincent Troia, Ohio River Trail Council
Ms. Darla Cravotta, Special Projects Coordinator, Allegheny County
Mr. Robert D. Hurley, Deputy Director, ACED
Ms. Lynn Heckman, Assistant Director, ACED
Ms. Kay Pierce, Manager, Planning Division, ACED