



OKLAHOMANS FOR NEW TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES COALITION

Ensuring Oklahoma's Rail Transit Future

September 14, 2009

Douglas W. Rex
Division Director
Transportation Planning and Data Services
Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG)
21 E. Main Street, Suite 100
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Re: TIGER Grant Application

Dear Mr. Rex:

I am writing on behalf of Oklahomans for New Transportation Alternatives Coalition (OnTrac) in support of ACOG's TIGER grant application, which seeks federal funding in support of the development of the Central Oklahoma Commuter Rail Project.

OnTrac is a not-for-profit public interest organization whose mission is to ensure Oklahoma's rail transit future. Our organization represents more than 1000 members throughout the state, most of who live in Central Oklahoma. OnTrac's efforts are currently focused on developing a regional rail transit system and an intermodal hub to service that system.

The Central Oklahoma Commuter Rail Project is extremely important to the Oklahoma City metropolitan area and Central Oklahoma as it represents the first major step toward development of an intermodal rail transit system. OnTrac believes such a system is critical to ensuring the transportation and economic future of the region.

In addition, the project is vitally important to the state and the nation with respect to its direct connection to Tinker Air Force Base, one of Oklahoma's largest employers and one of the country's most important military facilities. In a time of serious concern over future energy costs and availability, it is critical for our nation's major military bases to have alternative transportation options.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with our comments and to offer our support for your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marion F. Hutchison II".

Marion F. Hutchison II
Board Member