

Andy Beshear Governor Jim Gray Secretary

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Garland "Andy" Barr United States Congressman 2430 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Barr,

On behalf of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), I am writing in support of the Fayette County "Newtown Pike Extension – Scott Street Connector" project in Lexington, Kentucky. The project is the final phase of the overall "Newtown Pike Extension" project with the Scott Street Connector being the final section from Patterson Street intersection, over South Broadway, to the intersection on South Limestone across from the University of Kentucky campus.

The Scott Street Connector project will provide immediate relief of traffic congestion in downtown Lexington, and the project will complete an important route that supports commuter traffic from I-75/I-64 to Lexington's Central Business District and other vital destinations such as the University of Kentucky (UK) Main Campus, UK Medical Center, UK Kroger Field and UK Athletic Complex, Veterans Administration Hospital, Central Baptist Hospital and Medical Offices, and the Good Samaritan Hospital.

KYTC has worked with the City of Lexington and local stakeholders to advance this \$30 million project through the preliminary engineering phase. With regard to state matching funds for the project, KYTC will provide \$5 million on the condition that the full \$20 million of federally earmarked funding is received, thereby allowing the project to be fully funded as envisioned by the City. The City plans to provide \$4 million from its dedicated federal STP-Urban funding and \$1 million of local match. The Scott Street Connector project is not in the KYTC Highway Plan and not in the KYTC STIP, but KYTC will continue to work closely with the Lexington-Fayette County Urban Government, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to add the project to the MPO TIP.

Thank you for your support of the Fayette County "Newtown Pike Extension – Scott Street Connector" project in Lexington, Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Jim Gray