

United States Senate

September 24, 2015

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

*Re: FTA Capital Improvement Program for Funding Through Small Starts –
IndyGo Red Line Project – Phase I*

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Making cities convenient and accessible places to live, work and visit is vital to their economic growth and stability. A city's public transportation system is a critical factor required to meet the needs and expectations of residents, tourists and the business community. For this reason, I support the approval of the Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation's (IndyGo) application for funding for Phase I of the Red Line Project through the Federal Transit Administration's Small Starts discretionary grant program.

As you know from your visit to Indianapolis this past April, IndyGo's Red Line Bus Rapid Transit project is intended to be the first of several rapid transit lines in the metropolitan area. The 35-mile transit spine will begin in Hamilton County to the north and run south through downtown Indianapolis to Greenwood in Johnson County. Small Starts funding will be used to build the first phase of the plan, a critical thirteen mile stretch within Indianapolis, from 66th Street on the north side of the Broad Ripple neighborhood to Hanna Avenue on the south side. This section alone connects many of the city's most vibrant neighborhoods to institutions of higher learning, major employers, a busy convention center and State government offices. In addition, IndyGo anticipates that the line will attract new transit riders, thereby mitigating traffic congestion and improving air quality.

Safe, efficient and convenient public transportation is an essential component of economic opportunity and growth. I respectfully request that you give the IndyGo Small Starts application full and fair consideration, in a manner consistent with U.S. law and public policy. I would appreciate being informed when a decision is announced. Questions and announcements can be directed to Marianne Black by email at Marianne_Black@donnelly.senate.gov or by telephone at (317) 226-5555.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly
United States Senator