

Resolution

Whereas the municipality of Princeton and Princeton University have been jointly examining the possibility of improving train service along the Princeton branch of NJ Transit, and

Whereas the USDOT has announced the availability of funding for this year's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant program. There will be \$600 million in grants available through the TIGER program, with up to \$35 million possibly awarded to planning grants, for projects that have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. As in prior rounds of funding, this year's TIGER grants will be awarded for investments in road, rail, transit, and port projects that promise to achieve critical national objectives. Applicants must detail the benefits delivered by their project for five long-term outcomes: safety, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, livability, and environmental sustainability. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis.

We resolve to solicit the continued partnership of Princeton University and the added partnership of West Windsor Township, Mercer County, NJ Transit and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to in order to jointly apply for funding under this grant program to perform design, engineering and cost estimating work on improvements to the existing train service in a manner in which we all jointly agree. Upgrades being considered involve increased service frequency, track extension to Nassau Street, change of rail vehicle type, addition of interstitial stations along the existing route, improved signaling and customer ticketing and scheduling interfaces, bicycle and pedestrian improvements along the right of way, intermodal opportunities with other transit networks and passenger comfort and safety enhancements.

Furthermore, we ask the Alexander Street University Place Transit Task Force to oversee the outreach to our regional neighbors and to manage the preparation of the application along with the engineering firm of URS. They are presently under commission to study transit strategies for improvements to the Princeton Branch, or Dinky. They would prepare the application for the TIGER grant at a cost of not to exceed \$20,000. The fee will be allocated towards their staff time in preparing the 30 page application. The partners to this application will be asked to provide letters of support. The amount of the grant request is not known at this time. The completed application is due in Washington DC by 5 pm on April 28, 2014.

CERTIFICATION

I, Linda S. McDermott, Clerk of Princeton, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was considered and adopted by the Princeton Council at its meeting held on the 7th day of April, 2014.

Linda S. McDermott, Clerk
Princeton