



MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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August 25, 2009

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BY:.....

Mohammed H. Khan, MART Administrator
Montachusett Regional Transit Authority
1427R Water Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Mr. Khan,

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) would like to express its support for the application MART is submitting for the Federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant for the **Fitchburg Commuter Rail Extension - Wachusett Station and Layover Facility**. The project will bring much needed economic development to our regional industrial areas in Fitchburg and Westminster. It will create and preserve jobs that could easily be relocated if these investments are not made now.

As for the benefits to regional commuters, the project will offer a realistic public transit option to our residents living to the west and south of Fitchburg. As a regional transportation project, the benefits to our region have been recognized for several years in our Regional Transportation Plan, and in regional and state Transportation Improvement Programs. From our perspective, these proposed improvements are our top regional transit priorities.

In conclusion, the MRPC gives this project our support and, we request along with you that the project be funded in full through the TIGER program, at the earliest possible time.

Sincerely,

Glenn P. Eaton
Executive Director

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