



September 2, 2009

U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: HALL COUNTY TIGER GRANT APPLICATION – SPOUT SPRINGS ROAD
WIDENING PROJECT.**

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the Flowery Branch City Council, I am writing to indicate our support and encouragement in connection with a TIGER Grant application submitted to the United States Department of Transportation by Hall County Government for the widening of Spout Springs Road.

Over the past several years Flowery Branch and southern Hall County have experienced rapid growth centered on the Spout Springs Road corridor. This growth has placed enormous pressure on the existing transportation infrastructure and although the widening of Spout Springs Road is identified within the Gainesville Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO) Long Range Transportation Plan, funding has not been available to begin the project. The widening of this roadway with use of a TIGER Grant will improve the quality of life for residents and businesses using the corridor by eliminated long traffic delays and improving general safety. In addition, the project will contribute to needed economic development opportunities by improving commercial access for all jurisdictions involved in the widening.

I believe that the Hall County proposal clearly demonstrates collaboration among neighboring jurisdictions. As a true partner in this project, Flowery Branch is contributing to Hall County the right-of-way within our city limits needed for the widening of this roadway. There is no doubt the Hall County proposal clearly demonstrates the type of project that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act intended when this grant was created. I am pleased to support this worthwhile effort to provide this important community improvement.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Diane C. Hirling
Mayor, City of Flowery Branch