



The Honorable Maryellen O'Shaughnessy
Franklin County Clerk of Courts

Administration
373 South High Street, 23rd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614.525.3600

September 22, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: West Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Franklin County Clerk of Courts Office, I am writing this letter to express our strong support for the Central Ohio Transit Authority's (COTA) request for funding under the Pilot Program for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) to conduct comprehensive capacity, economic, and market analysis as well as resource and policy recommendations for the remaining transit stations along the West Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor.

The Franklin County Clerk of Courts' Office employs approximately 200 full-time Deputy Clerks that serve in five divisions: Auto Title, Legal, Fiscal Services, Information Technology, and Administration. Four of those divisions are in seven different offices in the Franklin County Courthouse complex. The fifth, Auto Title, is in four branch offices throughout Franklin County. Each division is important to the Franklin County Clerk of Courts' two major functions: management of court documents and issuance of auto titles.

Ensuring that our employees live and work in a community that is committed to more reliable public transportation, create safer and expanded bike and pedestrian paths, and enable truly walkable communities with more affordable access to work, home, and entertainment is of great importance to me as an elected official. Additionally, when I was a Columbus (Ohio) City Council Member, I strongly advocated for expanded public transportation that would help address growth, affordability, and opportunity gaps in our community.

The strong partnership of COTA, the City of Columbus, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, and Franklin County and the major impact that the West Broad BRT will make in our community perfectly aligns with Pilot Program for TOD. We respectfully request that the U.S. Department of Transportation funds this application. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maryellen O'Shaughnessy
Franklin County Clerk of Courts