



James G. Vella
President
Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services

World Headquarters
One American Road
Dearborn, MI 48126-2701 USA

April 25, 2014

Merritt Clapp-Smith
Principal Planner
Saint Paul Planning and Economic Development
25 West 4th Street, 1400
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Ms. Clapp-Smith,

The Ford Fund is in full support of the City of Saint Paul's \$200,000 TIGER planning grant application -- *Building a Multimodal Corridor on the Canadian Pacific Rail Spur : Preliminary Design Study and Master Plan* -- and is pleased to commit to a funding match of \$10,000 for the project if a TIGER award is secured and proceeds.

The Ford Motor Company Fund is the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company and supports building strong communities wherever Ford does business.

Repositioning the five (5)-mile Canadian Pacific heavy rail line which formerly served the Ford Twin Cities Assembly Plant into a high quality multimodal corridor will provide a unique and important public transportation asset. As a well-designed off-road corridor, it will provide an efficient commuter route linking Minneapolis, the future Ford site redevelopment, several neighborhoods and downtown Saint Paul, and will be a strong candidate to become one of the finest recreation amenities in the Twin Cities region.

TIGER funding will provide an essential ingredient to hire the professional expertise required to undertake a rail reuse design study and master plan, and our match commitment of \$10,000 will assist in securing these services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Vella". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.