

SCOTT F. DADSON  
CITY MANAGER



BILLY KEYSERLING  
MAYOR

SHIRLEY D. HUGHES  
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER/CFO

**CITY OF BEAUFORT**  
P. O. DRAWER 1167  
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901-1167  
843-525-7070

WILLIAM B. HARVEY III  
CITY ATTORNEY

September 1, 2010

The Honorable Weston Newton, Chairman  
Beaufort County Council  
Po Box 1228  
Beaufort, SC 29901

Dear Chairman Newton:

The City Council of the City of Beaufort met in working session and discussed, amongst other things, the issues regarding the implementation of the TIGR I Grant. The City feels that the issue of Grant administration is best managed with the Northern Beaufort County Regional Plan Implementation Committee. This process, as opposed to the avenue of BTAG, is the preferred method to implementation a successful project.

At the Joint Municipal Planning Commission meeting held on August 30, 2010 the commission discussed the Bus Liability Grant. The Commission approved a motion asking Beaufort City Council and the Town of Port Royal to Contact Beaufort County officials and request that the Bus Livability funds be prioritized by the Northern Beaufort County Regional Plan Implementation Committee rather than Beaufort Transportation Advisory Group (BTAG).

Furthermore, it is the consensus of City Council that the scope of the project should be paired down to focus on the doable rather than the dream. It is our view that creation of the Linear Path and sidewalks that connect neighborhoods in the Burton area of the City to the trail will in effect connect the most northern parts of the City with Port Royal. This means a family in Burton could safely walk or ride bicycles from their homes to the YMCA in Port Royal safely. From the other end, families in Port Royal could walk or ride bicycles from the Village at Port Royal to the movie theatre on highway 170. And finally, the intermodal trails as incorporated into our Boundary Street Redevelopment, funded by the sales tax dollars and our TIF's, which were leveraged into the TIGR application, will further enhance the opportunity for connectivity from almost the entire city to Port Royal and Vice-versa.

SCOTT F. DADSON  
CITY MANAGER



BILLY KEYSERLING  
MAYOR

SHIRLEY D. HUGHES  
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER/CFO

**CITY OF BEAUFORT**  
P. O. DRAWER 1167  
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901-1167  
843-525-7070

WILLIAM B. HARVEY III  
CITY ATTORNEY

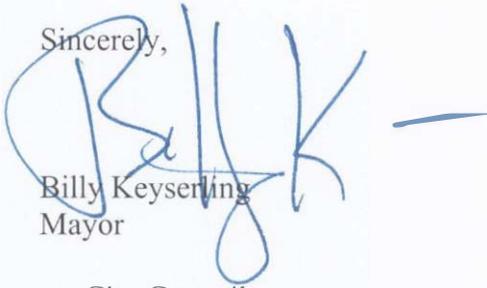
While staff continue to tell us that they must split the money evenly between a bus system, the trail and sidewalks, doing this will spread the dollars so thinly that we are likely not to achieve the benefits we are all seeking.

We believe the Town of Port Royal shares this point of view and will be forthcoming with a letter similar to this. And we believe the Beaufort Port Royal Joint Planning Commission will do the same at their next meeting.

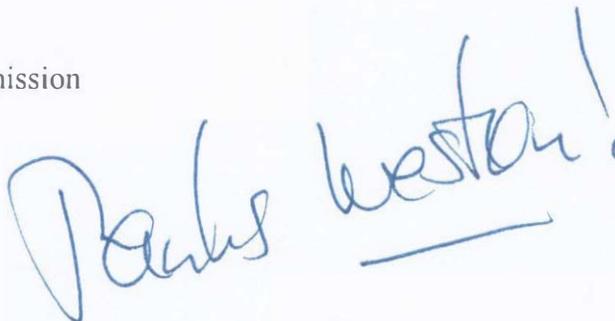
And finally, we are prepared, along with you, to ask BJWSA to contribute some of the proceeds from rail and rock removal to be invested in planning/engineering for the Linear Park which will further leverage local dollars toward making the project what it can be.

I have been in touch with Congressional delegation staff who indicate that before the "rules are written" for the grant, a visit to US DOT to talk about a more focused and refined scope would make a lot of sense and likely achieve the best possible investment of the grant.

Sincerely,

  
Billy Keyserling  
Mayor

cc: City Council  
City Manager  
Joint Planning Commission  
Town of Port Royal

  
Parks Weston