

Elysian

Charter School of Hoboken

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Office of Infrastructure, Finance and Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Members of the TIGERS Grants Committee:

Hoboken is a wonderful city for our students and staff. It is also an older city, with an infrastructure that, if improved, can vastly improve the safety and quality of lives of those who live here. As the director of a local K to 8 charter school the investment in safety is of critical importance to me. Our students (who range from five to fourteen years old) spend a great deal of time taking advantage of the shops and beauty of Washington Street, yet crossing the street is a challenge as is riding a bicycle. We do allow some of our older children to go out during lunch and recess. However, we do limit their access to Washington Street because of the dangers of turning cars, etc. The components of this plan that address pedestrian and bicycle safety are critical to the needs of our school.

Many of our students were seriously affected by the flooding of Hurricane Sandy. One family, for example, had to be helped out their bedroom window into a boat in order to escape to safety. The efforts that are part of this plan to remediate flooding is key to our families' safety.

In Hoboken parking is an ongoing issue for our teachers, staff and visitors. Just recently we had an event in which a group of eighth graders won an award that was to be covered by the local media. The television station's truck could not find parking and the reporter finally made it upstairs after the event was over.

Please know that I fully support the Washington Street Redesign Project. The concepts behind it will provide a safer environment that improves the city's infrastructure in a greener environment.

Very truly yours,



Harry Laub, Ph.D.
Director