



April 14, 2016

Honorable Robert Craft, Mayor
City of Gulf Shores
PO Box 299
Gulf Shores, AL 36547-0299

Dear Mayor Craft:

We are excited that the City of Gulf Shores is re-applying for TIGER Grant Funding from the US Department of Transportation for construction of multimodal transportation infrastructure in the Waterway Village District of the City of Gulf Shores.

The Coastal Alabama Business Chamber is very proud to provide this letter of support for this grant. Please accept this letter as a very strong demonstration of enthusiasm from our business community. We believe development of Waterway Village is a critical component to the future of our community.

As the region's largest business association representing almost 1,000 companies throughout Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, Fort Morgan and the neighboring communities, we are well aware of the strategic importance of the Waterway Village as a resource for residents, visitors, and the business community.

The upcoming festival (for the second consecutive year) and other recent events at Waterway Village are living proof of the true potential what Waterway Village can and will be to our entire region. The location of businesses in the neighborhood (including the relocation of businesses to this neighborhood) demonstrates the confidence the private sector has in our City's vision for Waterway Village. The mixed use plans for this area -- and what they mean for all of our citizens -- promise to make Waterway Village one of the most sought-after business and recreational designations along the Gulf Coast.

Therefore, we again strongly urge the US Department of Transportation to seriously consider the funding of this project as a sound investment in their own mission and one that will have solid positive outcomes for all who live, work, and visit in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed Rodriguez".

Ed Rodriguez
President
Coastal Alabama Business Chamber