



April 24, 2014

Mr. David Corliss
City Manager
City of Lawrence
P.O. Box 798
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Re: K-10 Connector Funding Update and Request for Reimbursement

Dear Mr. Corliss:

I would like to provide you with an update on Johnson County's on-going conversations with Johnson County Community College, and confirm the City of Lawrence's three-year phased in funding strategy for the **K-10 Connector** bus route.

Alice M. Amrein, Transportation Director and I met with President Joseph Sopcich, Dennis Day, Vice-President of Student Success and Engagement and Judy Korb, Executive Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Operations in late October. We had a very good discussion about the service, how it was initiated and relevant operating and financial statistics. We provided the same general information that we provided you and your staff and requested funding assistance from the Community College.

Dr. Sopcich acknowledged the benefits of the K-10 Connector Service, the value of public transit and its influence on commuting behaviors. He also indicated that the College, during the economic downturn, used a large portion of their operating reserves to balance their budget but he would consider our funding request.

Since that time, we have not received official word back from the Community College, but unofficially we have been told the College does not have funds available for our funding request. While the economy is improving, their student enrollment remains down, as are their revenues, so they do not have discretionary funds for this service. However, we plan to continue discussions with the Community College in the future, as you are with the University of Kansas.

I would recommend that we proceed with the amounts we discussed last year, which allows the Johnson County and Lawrence communities to partner on this important service. We request the agreed upon amount for the first year of funding from the city in the amount \$120,000 be remitted to Johnson County Transit (see attached invoice). We are also requesting confirmation that you will be including \$200,000 in your FY 2015 budget for the second year phased in funding request for the service and consideration for FY 2016 in your five year financial forecasts.

You will recall that we agree to the proposed funding scenario that weights ridership at 80% and population weighted at 20%. We also agreed that we would not include the administrative allocation in the formula.

Thank you and your staff again for their efforts in this process, and we look forward to working more closely with you.

Sincerely,



Penny Post oak Ferguson
Deputy County Manager

CC: Hannes Zacharias, County Manager, Johnson County
Alice Amrein, Transportation Director, Johnson County
Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager, City of Lawrence