



City of Rochelle

Economic Development

Memo

To: City Manager Dave Plyman
From: Economic Development Director Jason Anderson
Date: May 20, 2015
Re: TIGER Grant

The City is applying for a TIGER grant to expand the City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR) so to expand switching capabilities for current and future rail customers. The three track expansion along with the construction of two structures and drainage facilities will allow the CIR to handle longer unit trains and additional railcar storage. Currently the Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation holds ~19 acres of rail right of way which GREDCO purchased 15 years ago so to guarantee the City could expand the rail system. As a match for the TIGER grant the City will purchase the remaining 19 acres of rail right of way from GREDCO along with an additional 15 acres which will be needed to accommodate future rail beds and drainage facilities. The resolution being proposed includes the City's commitment of \$1M for the purchase of additional right of way. Funds to purchase the additional right of way will come from future rail revenues. This is how the City has been purchasing rail right of way since the inception of the CIR in 1986.