



August 31, 2009

Secretary Raymond H. LaHood
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington DC 20590

RE: Mercer Corridor Tiger grant application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the Cascade Bicycle Club's 11,000 members, we are writing to recommend the Mercer Corridor Project in Seattle for Tiger grant funding.

This facility was previously designed and constructed during the heyday of autocentricism. Fortunately, the City of Seattle has moved beyond simply pumping cars through this community and onto increasingly congested freeways.

The South Lake Union neighborhood has transformed virtually overnight into a community with thousands of employees and residents, which makes the project all the more important. Thousands of people currently travel the neighborhood by foot, bicycle and transit, and thousands more are coming. Getting here, they face hostile and unsafe conditions, remnants of the days when we thought the only proper way to travel was by car.

With Tiger grant funding we have an opportunity to heal the damage done to this neighborhood and create a livable, walkable, bikeable community. The win-win nature of the project cannot be underestimated as it also provides more logical traffic patterns and more options through a reconnected street grid.

In short, we can remake this corridor and support transportation choices, safety and equity in so doing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hiller".

David Hiller
Advocacy Director

Cc: Sen Patty Murray, Sen Maria Cantwell, Rep Jim McDermott, Gov Christine Gregoire, Mayor Greg Nickels, Council Pres Richard Conlin

