

CRH CONSTRUCTION
general contractor

P O Box 3583, Seattle, WA 98124 p: 206.328.9567 f: 206.325.0161

March 8, 2012

The Honorable Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Seattle Mercer West TIGER IV Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As a business owner in and resident of Seattle, I am writing to you to voice my support of the City of Seattle's application for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER grant. I understand that funding from this grant will be dedicated to the Two-Way Mercer West Project. The Mercer Corridor is a major transportation connection for our area, servicing commuters, residents and local businesses. In its current state, it has impacted traffic in the Downtown Seattle area and limited access to a major nearby business and residential districts. The state of the Corridor has also impacted major economic sectors in our region - including information technology, biotechnology, travel and tourism, and international trade.

I believe that the project will increase the usability and viability of the Corridor in a number of areas, including:

- **SAFETY** - Driver safety will improve along Aurora Avenue with the revision of the center support of this well-traveled thoroughfare. The Mercer West project will provide for the addition and expansion of sidewalks and bikeways, allowing safe travel for the steadily growing pedestrian and cycle traffic.
- **ECONOMIC GROWTH** - Hundreds of much-needed jobs will be created, properties improved, and economic growth encouraged by the addition of facilities such as the Mercer Garage and the redevelopment of Terminals 90 and 91. Decreased congestion will also assist in encouraging patronage of local businesses in the direct and surrounding areas, such as South Lake Union and Queen Anne.
- **COORDINATION WITH RELATED TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS** - Completion of the project will allow Seattle to maintain commitments made to other transportation projects, including linking several areas (including the Seattle Center, the Port of Seattle, and northwest Seattle neighborhoods) to the SR99 Tunnel. Planning for the tunnel included the Mercer Corridor work. If the project does not proceed, the City and the State will run the risk of losing the benefit of previous project investments.

Letter to the Honorable Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
RE: City of Seattle Mercer West TIGER IV Application
March 8, 2012
Page 2 of 2

My firm performs work for valued clients in the Mercer Corridor, therefore its health and vitality ensures the continued success of my business and the construction industry as a whole. I respectfully ask that you consider the above referenced points in your review of the City of Seattle's application for the TIGER grant.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Hall
Owner

MAH/kmm

Cc: US Senator Patty Murray
US Senator Maria Cantwell
Governor Christine Gregoire
Congressman Jim McDermott
Mayor Mike McGinn, City of Seattle