

March 9, 2012

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



Ref: City of Seattle MERCER WEST TIGER IV application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

As the voice of South Lake Union businesses, research institutions and residents on public policy issues affecting our neighborhood, I am writing in support of the City of Seattle's application for the US Department of Transportation TIGER grant. Funding from this grant will be dedicated to the "Two-Way Mercer West" extension.

The Mercer extension is a high-volume transportation artery carrying some 55,000 vehicles a day to and from Interstate 5 to the Port of Seattle and to the critical drivers of our regional economy located here in South Lake Union.

As a transportation priority for the City of Seattle, this project has the comprehensive support of neighborhood stakeholder groups, local industry and adjacent communities.

TIGER funding will ensure completion of the final link of this project which over the past 40 years has become one of our region's most congested and antiquated transportation corridors.

Completion of Mercer West will help keep the region economically competitive, create some 500 direct jobs and support several of the region's most competitive and important organizations including UW Medicine, South Lake Union; Amazon.com; Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center; The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; The Port of Seattle and the North Pacific Fishing Fleet located in Ballard. The South Lake Union area alone is expected to attract 30,000 new jobs by mid decade. The freight mobility impact of this corridor on the Port of Seattle and the passenger cruise ship industry is in excess of \$393 million.

Other benefits of the successful funding and completion of this project include: better transit access, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements and the continued revitalization and increased livability of the South Lake Union Neighborhood for those of us that live and or work here.

Your approval of the City's MERCER WEST TIGER grant request will drastically improve transportation in the corridor and help the City and the region achieve its economic objectives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry Dinndorf".

Jerry Dinndorf
President

South Lake Union Community Council

Jerry Dinndorf,
President
AGC Seattle

Dawn Oliver,
Vice President
Morningside Academy

Michael Blumson,
Treasurer
Low Income Housing
Institute

Lorie Groth,
Secretary
Resident

Lloyd Douglas
Cascade Neighborhood
Council

Matthew Edwards
Equity Office

Dan Foltz
Weber Thompson
Architects

Molly and Joshua Franklin
Residents

Mike Kenney
Resident and Small
Business Owner

Pearl Leung
Vulcan Inc.

Mike McQuaid
Lake Union Park Working
Group

Steven Paget
OAC Services

John Savo
NBBJ Architects