

# Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters



*Affiliated with  
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America*

*John Littel, Political Director*

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March 9, 2012

The Honorable Raymond LaHood, Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Seattle Mercer West TIGER IV Application

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I am writing in support of the City of Seattle's application for the US Department of Transportation's TIGER grant. Funding from this grant will be dedicated to the Two-way Mercer West Project.

The Mercer Corridor is a critical piece of Seattle's transportation system, serving 70,000 vehicles per day. It continues to be a major bottleneck, limiting access to the growing South Lake Union neighborhood, along with the Seattle Waterfront and Seattle Center. Mercer West is a vital project to support the health of the regional economy. Also, Mercer West is a necessary step in the final work needed to complete the Alaska Way Viaduct Replacement Project, providing the link between I-5 and the waterfront.

The Mercer West Project will create over 500 direct jobs for our industry, jobs that are sorely needed in this down economy. This TIGER Grant supports economic development immediately and over the long term for our city. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Littel,  
Political Director

Cc: Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Governor Chris Gregoire  
Congressman Jim McDermott  
Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle

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