



Wednesday, March 14, 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 growing South Lake Union area employer responsible for creating 380 local jobs, and counting, PATH is pleased to support 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 project.

Mercer West continues the phenomenal economic and community success of South Lake Union. It is the second phase of the Mercer Corridor Project, serving the Gates Foundation, the University of Washington, PATH, Amazon, RealNetworks, Classmates.com, F5 Networks, the North Pacific Fishing Fleet and the maritime and manufacturing industries of InterBay and Ballard.

Mercer West will also provide much needed pedestrian and bicycle connections between the Queen Anne and South Lake Union neighborhoods. Improvements included in the project are recommended in both the Seattle Bicycle Master Plan and the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan.

Most importantly for PATH, completion of the Mercer West project will serve as a powerful example of how Seattle is working to improve road safety. The success of this project will build upon an enduring legacy in the memory of Mike Wang, a PATH employee killed in a hit and run crash while he was bicycling home from work on July 28, 2011.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Doug Palm

Director of Global Facilities

cc:

Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Governor Christine Gregoire
Congressman Jim McDermott
Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle