



May 29, 2015

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: City of Seattle Northgate Non-Motorized Access to Transit and Education
TIGER Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Sound Transit is pleased to support a TIGER grant application for the Northgate Non-Motorized Access to Transit and Education Project, including the Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge and an expansion of Seattle's bicycle share network.

Approximately 15,000 daily riders will board Link light rail at Northgate Station by 2030 and Sound Transit is committed to providing easy, safe access to the Northgate Station for riders arriving by all modes. That commitment includes contributing \$10 million towards pedestrian and bicycle improvements that will connect with the Northgate Link light rail station (per Sound Transit Board Motions - M2012-42 & M2015-26).

The need for this project has been identified in a number of local and regional plans including the Northgate Coordinated Transportation Investment Plan and Seattle's Bicycle Master Plan as a priority facility improvement. Strong community support has been demonstrated through the Puget Sound Regional Council's Growing Transit Communities effort and the project is also identified as a key connection within the Regional Bicycle Network.

The pedestrian and bicycle bridge will provide a safe, convenient and direct connection to Sound Transit's Northgate Link Station from destinations on the west and east side of I-5. With its direct connection to the Northgate Link station, the Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge will also provide safe and easy access to regional light rail service for a much greater proportion of North Seattle residents.

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Non-motorized access to regional light rail and high frequency bus service is also a recognized need for other areas of the City. The proposed expansion of bike share to other neighborhoods will provide critical first- and last-mile connections to leverage regional transit investments with a wide network of non-motorized travel opportunities. Bike share also provides an important low cost, healthy means of transport with beneficial environmental effects and supports the goal of creating more transit-oriented communities in the region.

A federal partnership on this critical regional project is essential to leverage needed resources to move the project forward. Sound Transit strongly supports the Northgate Non-Motorized Access to Transit and Education project and the benefits it provides for local and regional transit users.

Thank you for your consideration of the City of Seattle's TIGER application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Harbour', written over a horizontal line.

Michael Harbour
Acting Chief Executive Officer

cc: The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives
Governor Jay Inslee, State of Washington
Mayor Edward B. Murray, City of Seattle