



# feet first

promoting walkable communities

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April 11, 2016

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

Re: City of Seattle - South Lander Street Grade Separation FAST Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express our support for the City of Seattle - South Lander Street Grade Separation Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Grant Application. Should this application be successful, the grant will finance construction of the South Lander Street Grade Separation. Now, more than ever, Seattle's pedestrians and bicyclists need a multi-modal overpass in S. Lander Street.

Since 2001, Feet First has been advocating for transportation improvements that make traveling safer, accessible, and more inviting for people of all ages and abilities to go by foot throughout Washington.

Building the S. Lander St. overpass will prevent possibly dangerous conflicts between trains, buses, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Vision Zero is the City of Seattle's plan to end traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030 and this overpass will be an important improvement to reach that goal.

It is also important for people walking who use S. Lander St. to have a grade-separated path to travel safely between work and their transit connections. Hundreds of employees at major employers including the Starbucks headquarters and the Seattle Public Schools headquarters arrive throughout the central Puget Sound region using Sound Transit's SoDo Link light rail station and King County Metro's E-3 busway. S. Lander St. makes it an important regional transit hub. In 2012, Feet First was brought on by the Duwamish Transportation Demand Management Association to facilitate a walking audit in this area. Given the hours of field work we conducted, we are intimately aware of the critical issues facing people walking in this area. More here: <http://www.duwamishtma.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/II.-SODO-Final.pdf>

Although this project has been prioritized in every study of freight access in the Duwamish, including the 1998 and subsequently updated Freight Action Strategy (FAST Corridor), the joint Port of Seattle/City of Seattle Industrial Areas Freight Access Program, the WSDOT State Freight Plan, and the City of Seattle Freight Master Plan, the S. Lander St. overpass will also leverage over \$800 million in high speed rail corridor investments made in Washington State.

I encourage you to approve the application from the City of Seattle for a \$55M FAST Grant. This is a project of statewide and national significance that is long-overdue and is a tremendous opportunity for the City of Seattle, Port of Seattle, the Puget Sound region, and Washington State. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Quinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lisa" and last name "Quinn" clearly distinguishable.

Lisa Quinn  
Executive Director

cc:  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Senator Patty Murray  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Congressman Jim McDermott