



King County

Dow Constantine

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April 7, 2016

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

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I write today in support of the City of Seattle's FAST Grant Application for the South Lander Street Grade Separation Project.

This project will construct a grade-separated crossing over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company tracks on South Lander Street between First and Fourth avenues South. Currently, South Lander Street is closed due to train traffic for an average of 4.5 hours per day.

The construction of this crossing will remove a key bottleneck for truck traffic for the Port of Seattle facilities and freight operational support centers in the area.

This project has been cited as a high priority in every study of freight access in this area, including the 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.

Beyond improving access to one of the largest port operations in the U.S., this project will also improve freight train movements for more than 3,000 rail cars each day, while reducing truck delays, congestion and emissions for more than 13,000 vehicles each day. It will improve safety by separating trains from people driving, walking, using transit, and riding bikes, and would ensure reliable access for emergency responders.

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The South Lander Street Grade Separation Project will improve freight mobility, enhance safety, and reduce delays in our region's largest manufacturing and industrial center. I urge you to approve the City of Seattle's FAST Grant Application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dow Constantine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

cc: The Honorable Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, Governor, State of Washington
The Honorable Jim McDermott, U.S. House of Representatives