



## Washington State Senate

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April 6, 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 you as Chairman of the Washington State Senate Transportation Committee, with my support of the South Lander Street grade separation project. The movement of goods and services is critical to our regional economy and South Lander provides a direct connection to the Port of Seattle. While reliable movement of goods is important, the safety and access for walkers, bikers and drivers is also an important factor when considering this grant application.

The South Lander Street roughly has 100 train crossings a day, closing the street for 4-5 hours a day, impacting the movement of goods, services, and the thousands of people who are trying to get to work, or other businesses. The congestion in the area will continue to get worse with the expansion of Amtrak, increase in general purpose and freight vehicle travel volume along with an increase in freight rail.

The construction of a grade separated crossing over the railroad tracks on South Lander Street will increase dependable access to the Port of Seattle. Freight movements via rail or road will keep goods and services moving in and out of the Pacific Northwest. As the Pacific Northwest continues to grow, it is critical to keep the direct connections open to the Port of Seattle facilities and freight operations and support centers. Pedestrians will benefit by not having to walk/bike/commute over the tracks on a daily basis.

The State Legislature and the City of Seattle have committed funds to the project and the FAST grant funds would will help complete this critical project.

Sincerely,

Curtis King  
Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee