



401 Mercer Street • Seattle, WA 98109 • 206.728.6463 TEL • 206.443.6691 FAX • KCTS9.org

March 15, 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:

We at KCTS Television, the Pacific Northwest's premier public television broadcasting service, strongly support the above referenced project because of its critical importance across several dimensions for our neighborhood, city and region.

With a mission of having a positive impact in our community, KCTS considers the Mercer Corridor Project as fundamental to preserving and enhancing the vitality of Seattle as this region's urban center. At a time when city cores across the nation are deteriorating, this area of Seattle's inner-urban fabric is vibrant with phenomenal economic growth and opportunity, is home to dynamic community/ regional cultural and tourist attractions as well as the growing economic engines of information technology, biotechnology and international trade.

Being located on Mercer Street ourselves, this main traffic artery's "very poor" pavement rating and high rate of accidents directly impacts public access to our building, on-site services and our neighborhood-based events. Sandwiched as it is between Puget Sound's Elliot Bay and Lake Washington, this area of Seattle's Center City is seriously and negatively impacted by the "Mercer Mess." It increasingly detracts significantly from local residents wanting to tackle the traffic to even get to this area of the city.

The project is of the highest importance for our urban economic and employment growth, the effective and efficient movement of traffic and freight through our region, the safety and ease of local pedestrian traffic, and our smart and managed urban sustainability well in to the future. We therefore urge you to give this project your full consideration, and to award the requested level of funding. As the gateway to the Pacific Northwest, Seattle's future depends on just such targeted, strategic funding.

Sincerely,

Maurice "Moss" Bresnahan  
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Senator Patty Murray  
Representative Jim McDermott  
Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle

Senator Maria Cantwell  
Governor Christine Gregoire  
Seattle City Council President Sally J. Clark