



April 10, 2016

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The Hon. Anthony Foxx, Secretary
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C., 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Manufacturing Industrial Council enthusiastically endorses the present South Lander Street Grade Separation and Railroad Safety Project.

Our interest in this project arises from MIC's role as a service organization for businesses that comprise the greater Seattle industrial base. As shown by the roster for our leadership group, listed on the left, our membership includes companies large and small, and many of them possess first-hand knowledge of the safety and traffic hazards that would be addressed by this project.

These business community concerns were driven home by the *Workable SODO* research project in 2013 that surveyed transportation concerns of more than 420 employees in the vicinity of Lander Street. Many of the employees were concerned for their personal safety because of the failure to provide adequate separation for railroad traffic. At that time, we were concerned these issues could not be addressed because of an unrealistic design plan for the Lander Street overpass.

These concerns were brought to the attention of the City of Seattle. We applaud city leadership for developing more cost-effective strategies for funding and building the overpass.

We are happy to answer any questions about our knowledge of this project. We can be reached at 206-762-2470 or by email to dgering@seattleindustry.org.

Sincerely,

Dave Gering, Executive Director
Manufacturing Industrial Council