



April 7, 2016

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

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Seattle Mariners strongly support the City of Seattle's application for FAST grant funding to complete the South Lander Street Grade Separation and Railroad Safety Project.

The crossing project will create a long-needed grade separation over the multiple BNSF railroad tracks on South Lander Street between 1st Avenue S. and 4th Avenue S. This crossing will be only the second separated crossing between I-90 on the north and Spokane Street on the south, though the Spokane Street separation does not accommodate pedestrians nor bicycles. The area the crossing will pass through is a highly congested industrial/commercial area and is a major route to the Port of Seattle and international trade. Traffic along South Lander Street consists of significant vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle movements. It is the only route available for transit users to get from jobs on the west side of the tracks to transit and light rail stops on the east side of the tracks. The lack of a grade separated street not only causes significant daily delays for all users, it is the location of many accidents between vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians with trains.

In addition to significantly improving the movement of all transportation modes across the Lander corridor, the creation of this grade crossing will significantly improve the ability of the two major sports venues, Safeco Field, home of the Seattle Mariners, and CenturyLink Field and Event Center, home of the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Sounders, to move thousands of sports fans, concert



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attendees and trade show attendees into and out of the Stadium District more efficiently. Without this improvement we will continue to see increases in delays for sports fans and for the surrounding industrial, international trade and commercial sectors of our local economy.

For these reasons, we strongly support the City of Seattle's application for FAST Grant funding to complete the South Lander Street Grade Separation and Railroad Safety Project.

Sincerely,



Bart Waldman

BW:sch

Cc: Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Governor Jay Inslee
Congressman Jim McDermott
Mayor Ed Murray
Howard Lincoln, Seattle Mariners Chairman
Charley Royer, Chair, Washington State Major League Baseball Public
Facilities District