

April 8, 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:

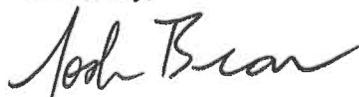
On behalf of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), I am writing in support of the City of Seattle's FASTLANE grant application for the South Lander Street Grade Separation project. This project is an outstanding match for the criteria for the FASTLANE grant program as expressed by both your recent Notice of Funding Opportunity, as well as Congress's intent in creating this grant program dedicated to freight mobility infrastructure.

The South Lander Street project is located within the regionally-designated Duwamish Manufacturing Industrial Center (MIC), the largest and most-intensely developed industrial area in our region. It includes over 5,000 acres and almost 10% of the central Puget Sound Region's industrial employment. It supports 75,000 total jobs, with an additional 25,000 jobs forecast by 2040. The Duwamish MIC is also home to the US Coast Guard's 13th District base in Seattle, serving the Puget Sound and North Pacific Coast.

PSRC's recent *Industrial Lands Analysis* (2015) identifies the Duwamish MIC as a hub for living-wage jobs in maritime, logistics and aerospace sectors recommends policy and investment strategies, including infrastructure investments like Lander, to ensure continued industrial and economic vitality for the MIC and the Puget Sound Region as a whole.

Like few other regions around the country, the Puget Sound's economy is driven by the movement of goods in and out of our port facilities. The South Lander grade separation project is an important major freight infrastructure projects that remains to be constructed in our region's plans for facilitating even greater volumes of trade through this Pacific Rim gateway. We urge your support in funding this critical project.

Sincerely,



Josh Brown,
PSRC Executive Director