

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



Re: City of Seattle NORTHGATE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE BRIDGE TIGER application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Licton Springs Community Council wishes to express its strong support for the TIGER grant funding of the subject pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge. The proposed bridge would provide essential passage over an interstate that separates our community from a neighborhood shopping complex and regional transit hub.

Our community is located across an interstate (I-5) from the Northgate Link Regional Transit Station, which currently serves as a regional park-and-ride hub for buses, and will include a rapid transit station that is currently under construction. The two roadway crossings that otherwise provide the only crossing of the highway and access to the rapid transit center and the associated development are located $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north, and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of the transit center, resulting in a minimum travel distance of approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile just to cross I-5 and reach the edge of our community.

The proposed bridge is roughly central between these crossings and will provide a sensible remedy, making it far easier and safer for our citizens to travel to existing and proposed community assets on the east side of I-5, which include the transit center, a community center, library, restaurants, drug store, groceries, shopping centers, etc. Likewise, it will provide commuters and students safer passage into our community and access to the North Seattle College, NW Hospital and medical facilities, parks and neighborhood commercial areas, and two new schools (elementary and middle) that will be constructed by 2017.

The new Northgate Link Station across the interstate from our community is being developed with significantly less parking than current park-and-ride stations due to the projected decrease in car trips. This means pedestrian and bicycle travel to the station will be even higher than current rates. However, the current distance of travel required of pedestrians to reach the east side of the interstate is prohibitive.

Some of the communities benefitting from the proposed bridge have an above average number of residents from economically disadvantaged populations. The proposed pedestrian bridge is centrally located, and will provide much safer and more direct connection between our community and the Northgate Link station and surrounding amenities.

We urge you to consider this project for funding.

Sincerely,


Licton Springs Community Council

cc:

Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Governor Jay Inslee
Congressman Jim McDermott
Mayor Edward B. Murray, Seattle