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April 23, 2014

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:

North Seattle College (NSC), strongly voices its support for the \$15,000,000 application by the City of Seattle for the **Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge** project from the *Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, TIGER, Discretionary Grant Program*.

The pedestrian bicycle bridge will connect two portions of a regional growth center whose neighborhoods have been bisected by Interstate 5. Neighborhoods have been isolated and residents inhibited from safe access across I-5 for pedestrians and bicycles to commercial, business, medical, employment and higher educational services.

This project would provide North Seattle College and surrounding neighborhoods with a vital link to the Northgate Link Light Rail and Transit Center Station area. The bridge would dramatically improve east-west accessibility and provide a direct safe access to the station area. The connection to the light rail station will enhance student access to the NSC campus and expand resident and employee travel options.

The transportation plan is well grounded in connecting essential transportation corridors to: a regional commercial shopping center; mixed use residential neighborhoods; pedestrian and recreational access; NW Hospital and other medical facilities; a local library and North Seattle College. The NSC campus is a regional higher education center which also houses the Opportunity Center for Employment and Education (OCE&E), a national model for employment and support services.

The innovative planning partnership between the City of Seattle, King County and Sound Transit is meritorious and exemplary of thoughtful collaborative investment and commitment to good transportation and land use planning.

North Seattle College is proud to support this effort and be a partner in helping to achieve this vital transportation project.

Respectfully,

Mary Ellen O'Keefe, Ed.D.  
Interim President

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