



April 11, 2014

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

RE: Northgate Link Light Rail Station Non-motorized Access Project TIGER VI Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the Puget Sound Regional Council, I am pleased to write in support of the City of Seattle's application for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER VI grant program. Funding from this grant will be dedicated to the Northgate Link Light Rail Station Non-motorized Access Project.

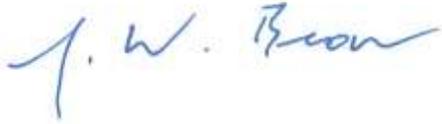
The Northgate Link Light Rail Station Non-motorized Access Project includes a pedestrian and bicycle bridge that will make it safer and easier to get between the community assets on the east side of I-5 (community center, library, rapid transit facilities, the shopping center) and those on the west (the North Seattle College, NW Hospital and medical facilities, parks and neighborhood commercial areas). The bridge, with its direct connection to the Northgate Link station, will provide access to the regional rail service for a much greater proportion of North Seattle. It will also make non-motorized access to Northgate's many bus routes much more attractive for those in Seattle's Lichten Springs, Bitter Lake and North Park neighborhoods, which have an above average number of residents from economically disadvantaged populations.

The improvements would also greatly expand access to the North Seattle College, with its two-year and four-year degree programs, over 50 certificate programs and over 14,000 students. The college, home to the Opportunity Center for Employment and Education, a one-stop shop for social, educational and employment services could be reached in a reasonable time from much further away than at present, benefitting Center patrons and the region. Non-motorized access is an important rung on the ladder of opportunity, presenting a low cost, healthy means of transport (with beneficial environmental effects).

This project supports the implementation of PSRC's U.S. Partnership for Sustainable Communities-funded Growing Transit Communities Program by addressing specific mobility needs in several of the station areas identified in that effort. In addition, the project is consistent with the region's long-range metropolitan transportation plan, Transportation 2040, and with the regional investment strategies and policies in VISION 2040. If funding is awarded, PSRC will expedite processing of the funds into the State Transportation Improvement Program.

I am pleased to support the Northgate Link Light Rail Station Non-motorized Access Project, and would strongly urge the U.S. Department of Transportation's consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. W. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "W".

Josh Brown, Executive Director
Puget Sound Regional Council