



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Rick Larsen
2113 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Larsen:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

To date, we have heard from some businesses that they will benefit from the terms of the TPP, but major labor organizations, environmental organizations and many manufacturers have consistently registered their opposition.

All eyes are on the United States to create trade practices that protect jobs, protect workers, protect the environment, include enforceable labor and environmental standards, and improve the quality of life in all signatory countries. Since the TPP provisions as drafted do not accomplish the goals we outlined, we urge you to vote against the TPP. If this does not pass, we have another chance to negotiate terms that meet our goals.

Seattle has adopted some of the most progressive labor and environmental standards in the country, and the TPP, if approved, could significantly undermine these advances. For example the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions of the TPP set up an international, quasi-judicial system that allows multinational corporations to challenge state and local laws and demand damages for lost profits.

This ISDS system threatens laws designed to protect the public interest and our environment. Our experience with NAFTA and other trade agreements, including ISDS cases from Canada where provincial laws and local decisions were successfully challenged, reinforce that the provisions in the TPP as drafted continue to threaten state and local decision-making. Specifically, the ISDS process set up through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is being used by Trans-Canada to sue the United States government for \$15 billion over our rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline. The ISDS tribunals established through previous trade agreements have enabled more than 600 challenges to more than 100 governments around the world, including Quebec's moratorium on fracking, Germany's plans

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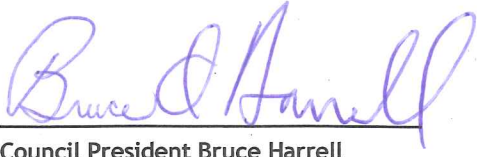
Here are some other specific concerns:

- Carbon Neutrality Goals Undermined: The City of Seattle is taking strong steps towards reaching our goal of being carbon neutral by 2050, but the TPP weakens conservation standards set in previous trade agreements and encourages the continued global dependence on fossil fuels.
- U.S. Jobs Moved Overseas: Free trade acts in the past have hurt the United States' workers by acting as a catalyst to move jobs overseas. According to the Economic Policy Institute, NAFTA has led to 680,000 American jobs being lost domestically. Based on the Department of Commerce data, the Labor Advisory Committee reports "the TPP will cost, at a minimum, 330,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector nation-wide."
- Undermining Workers Rights: We in the City support our workers by setting a phased-in minimum wage of \$15 per hour. We believe livable wages and safety requirements should be paid to every worker. By failing to strengthen international labor standards and failing to prevent currency manipulation, the TPP will make it easier for companies to ship American jobs overseas and disregard fair treatment for workers.
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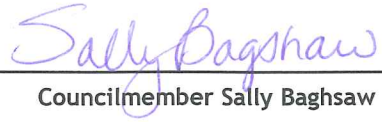
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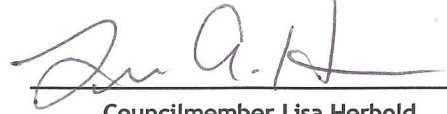
Council President Bruce Harrell



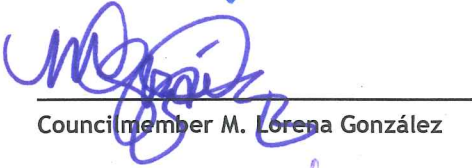
Councilmember Sally Bagsaw



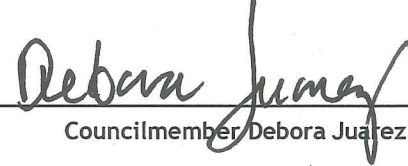
Councilmember Tim Burgess



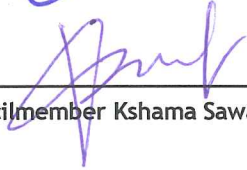
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Councilmember M. Lorena González



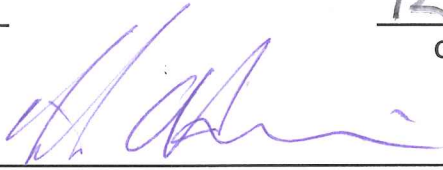
Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Adam Smith
2264 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

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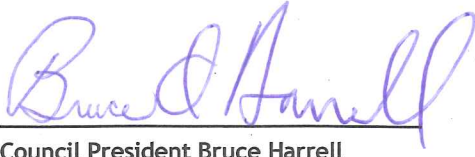
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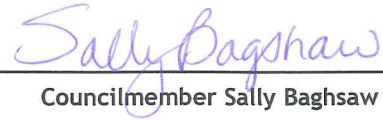
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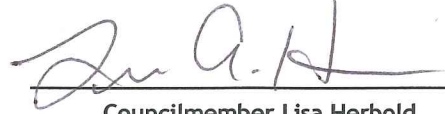
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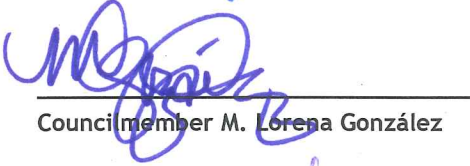
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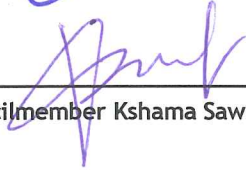
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Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
203 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

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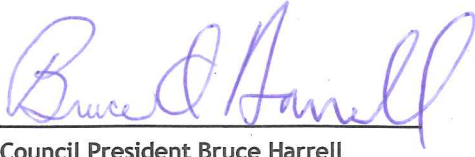
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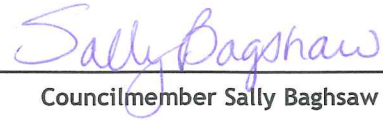
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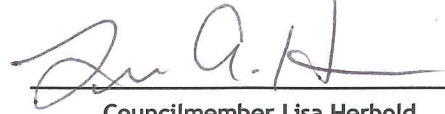
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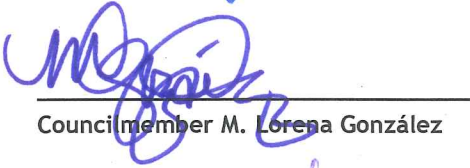
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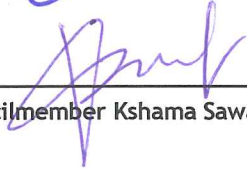
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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Dan Newhouse
1641 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Newhouse:

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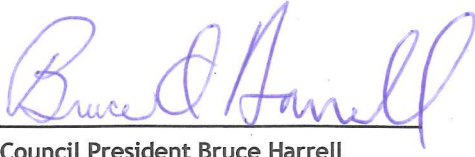
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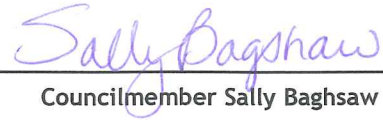
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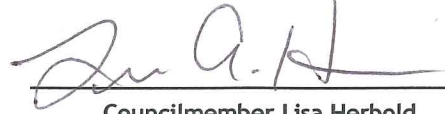
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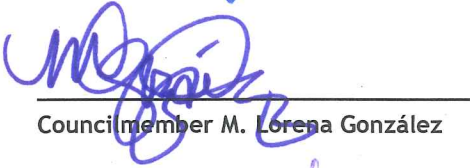
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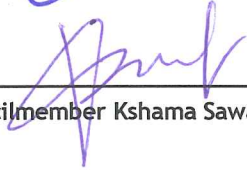
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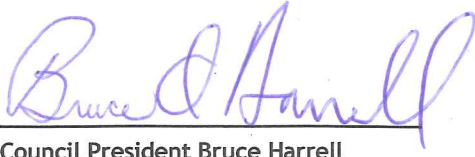
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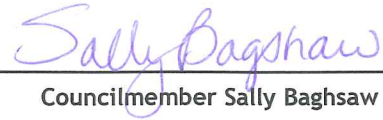
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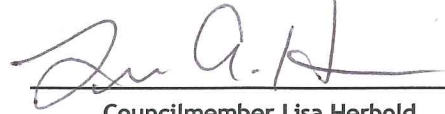
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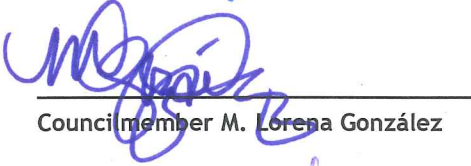
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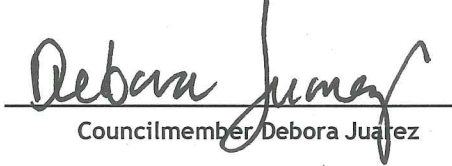
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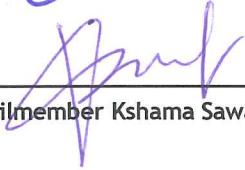
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember M. Lorena González



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Dennis Heck
425 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Heck:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

To date, we have heard from some businesses that they will benefit from the terms of the TPP, but major labor organizations, environmental organizations and many manufacturers have consistently registered their opposition.

All eyes are on the United States to create trade practices that protect jobs, protect workers, protect the environment, include enforceable labor and environmental standards, and improve the quality of life in all signatory countries. Since the TPP provisions as drafted do not accomplish the goals we outlined, we urge you to vote against the TPP. If this does not pass, we have another chance to negotiate terms that meet our goals.

Seattle has adopted some of the most progressive labor and environmental standards in the country, and the TPP, if approved, could significantly undermine these advances. For example the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions of the TPP set up an international, quasi-judicial system that allows multinational corporations to challenge state and local laws and demand damages for lost profits.

This ISDS system threatens laws designed to protect the public interest and our environment. Our experience with NAFTA and other trade agreements, including ISDS cases from Canada where provincial laws and local decisions were successfully challenged, reinforce that the provisions in the TPP as drafted continue to threaten state and local decision-making. Specifically, the ISDS process set up through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is being used by Trans-Canada to sue the United States government for \$15 billion over our rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline. The ISDS tribunals established through previous trade agreements have enabled more than 600 challenges to more than 100 governments around the world, including Quebec's moratorium on fracking, Germany's plans

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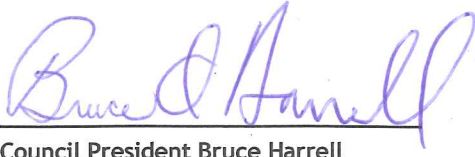
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- U.S. Jobs Moved Overseas: Free trade acts in the past have hurt the United States' workers by acting as a catalyst to move jobs overseas. According to the Economic Policy Institute, NAFTA has led to 680,000 American jobs being lost domestically. Based on the Department of Commerce data, the Labor Advisory Committee reports "the TPP will cost, at a minimum, 330,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector nation-wide."
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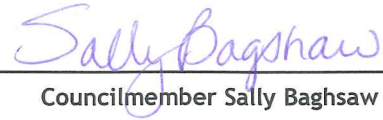
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Thank you for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you next time you are back in Western Washington.

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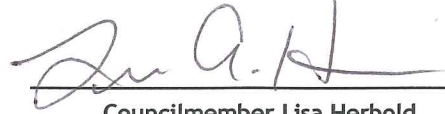
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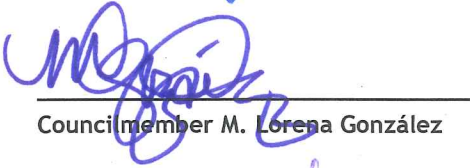
Councilmember Sally Bagsaw




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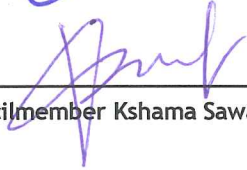
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember M. Lorena González



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Derek Kilmer:
1520 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kilmer:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

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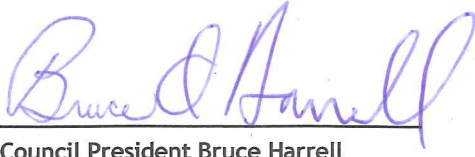
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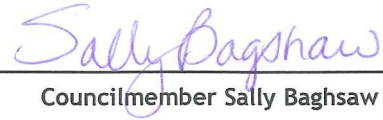
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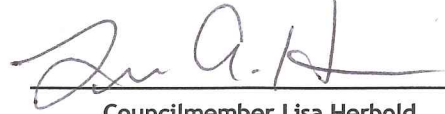
Council President Bruce Harrell



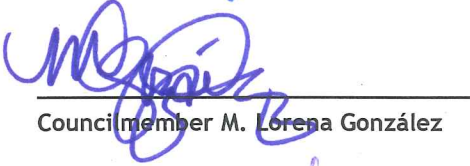
Councilmember Sally Bagsaw



Councilmember Tim Burgess



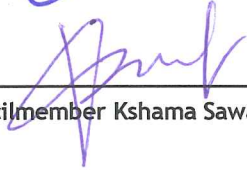
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember M. Lorena González



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler
1130 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Herrera Beutler:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

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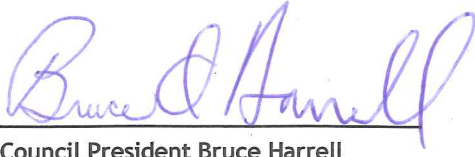
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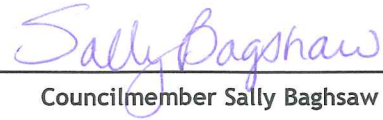
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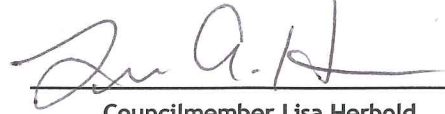
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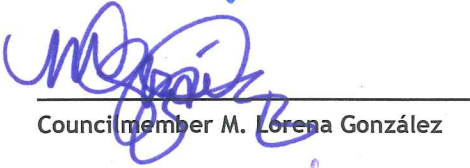
Councilmember Sally Bagsaw




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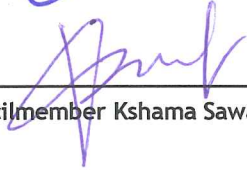
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



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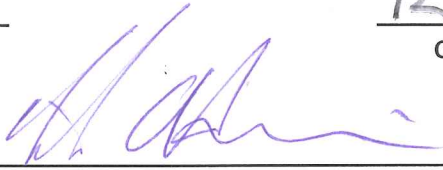
Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Jim McDermott
1035 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman McDermott:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

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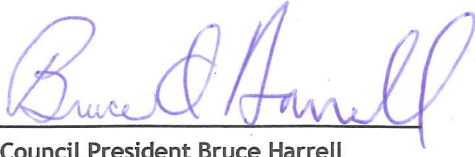
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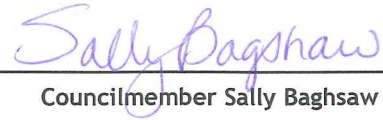
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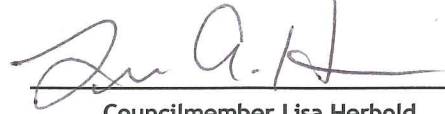
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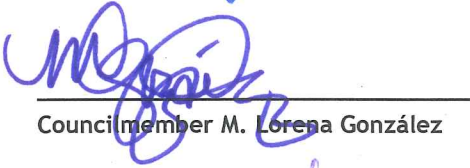
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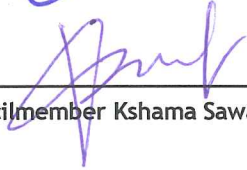
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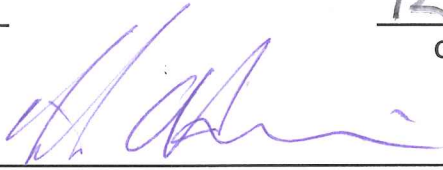
Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

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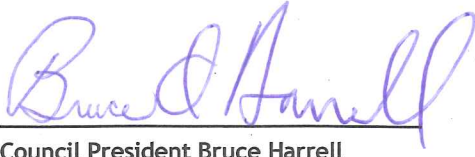
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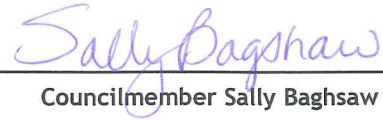
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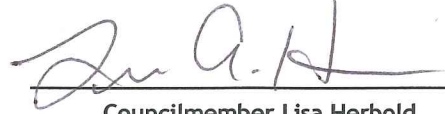
Council President Bruce Harrell



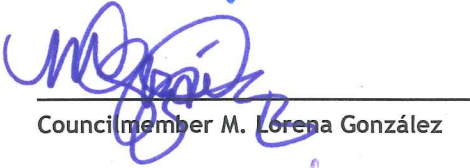
Councilmember Sally Bagsaw




Councilmember Tim Burgess



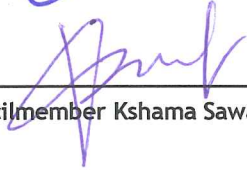
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember M. Lorena González



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Patty Murray
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

To date, we have heard from some businesses that they will benefit from the terms of the TPP, but major labor organizations, environmental organizations and many manufacturers have consistently registered their opposition.

All eyes are on the United States to create trade practices that protect jobs, protect workers, protect the environment, include enforceable labor and environmental standards, and improve the quality of life in all signatory countries. Since the TPP provisions as drafted do not accomplish the goals we outlined, we urge you to vote against the TPP. If this does not pass, we have another chance to negotiate terms that meet our goals.

Seattle has adopted some of the most progressive labor and environmental standards in the country, and the TPP, if approved, could significantly undermine these advances. For example the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions of the TPP set up an international, quasi-judicial system that allows multinational corporations to challenge state and local laws and demand damages for lost profits.

This ISDS system threatens laws designed to protect the public interest and our environment. Our experience with NAFTA and other trade agreements, including ISDS cases from Canada where provincial laws and local decisions were successfully challenged, reinforce that the provisions in the TPP as drafted continue to threaten state and local decision-making. Specifically, the ISDS process set up through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is being used by Trans-Canada to sue the United States government for \$15 billion over our rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline. The ISDS tribunals established through previous trade agreements have enabled more than 600 challenges to more than 100 governments around the world, including Quebec's moratorium on fracking, Germany's plans

to phase-out nuclear energy, and a decision to reject a new mining project in Nova Scotia. These interventions put our City and State in untenable positions.

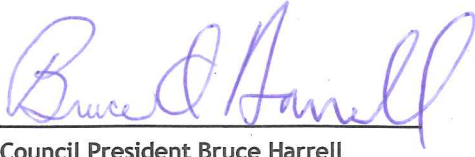
Here are some other specific concerns:

- Carbon Neutrality Goals Undermined: The City of Seattle is taking strong steps towards reaching our goal of being carbon neutral by 2050, but the TPP weakens conservation standards set in previous trade agreements and encourages the continued global dependence on fossil fuels.
- U.S. Jobs Moved Overseas: Free trade acts in the past have hurt the United States' workers by acting as a catalyst to move jobs overseas. According to the Economic Policy Institute, NAFTA has led to 680,000 American jobs being lost domestically. Based on the Department of Commerce data, the Labor Advisory Committee reports "the TPP will cost, at a minimum, 330,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector nation-wide."
- Undermining Workers Rights: We in the City support our workers by setting a phased-in minimum wage of \$15 per hour. We believe livable wages and safety requirements should be paid to every worker. By failing to strengthen international labor standards and failing to prevent currency manipulation, the TPP will make it easier for companies to ship American jobs overseas and disregard fair treatment for workers.
- Reducing Incentives for Buy America: The current TPP text requires the U.S. government to treat TPP firms the same as domestic firms for purchasing decisions, even when "Buy American" or, in our state, "Buy Washington" rules apply.
- Negative Impacts for Health Care: The TPP would extend pharmaceutical patents longer and into all countries involved, restricting access to cheaper lifesaving medicine. The impact is to threaten people's access to affordable medicine, which is why organizations such as Doctors Without Borders and the Alliance for Retired Americans oppose it.
- Impact on Medicaid Patients: Crucially to Seattle residents, TPP may also prevent Medicaid and Medicare from providing drug discounts to their low income patients, which runs counter to our country's efforts to lower the cost of health care.

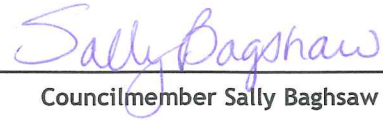
The City of Seattle strongly supports international fair trade practices and agreements that foster economic growth and promote high standards for labor, our environment, and public health. We do not support the Trans-Pacific Partnership as drafted, and urge you to vote against it when it comes before the United States Congress for a vote.

Thank you for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you next time you are back in Western Washington.

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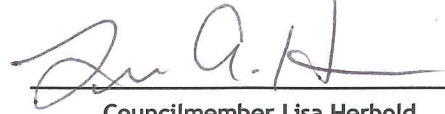
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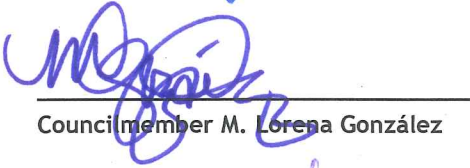
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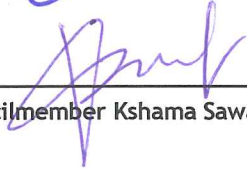
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



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Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

February 16th, 2016

The Honorable Suzan DelBene
425 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman DelBene:

We appreciate that Washington State's economy relies considerably on international trade. We want to promote our State's sound economy while we reinforce business cultures that value workers worldwide.

With those principles in mind, on March 30th, 2015 the City Council passed Resolution 31573, expressing our opposition to Track Promotion Authority ("Fast Track") for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and our concerns over then-draft elements of the TPP. We noted that if these goals to protect American jobs, protect workers and protect our environment were not met, we would urge our Congressional delegation to reject the TPP.

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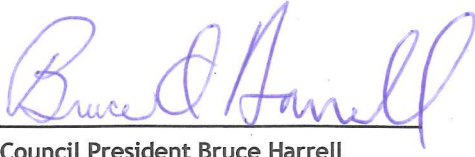
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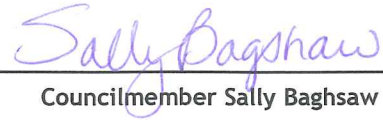
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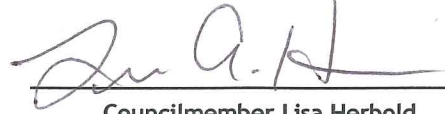
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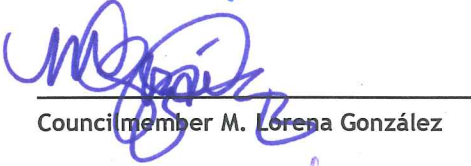
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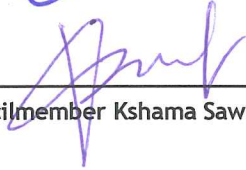
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