



April 9, 2015

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

Dear Senator Murray:

As leaders in the Puget Sound region, we are joining citizens and communities from around the country today to "Stand Up for Transportation." We call on you and your colleagues to take action to increase funding and reauthorize the nation's surface transportation programs, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), before May 31, 2015 when the current extension expires.

Transportation is the foundation of our national and regional economy. The transportation system in the Puget Sound region has benefitted greatly from many federal programs, as we have leveraged local investments with critical federal dollars to stretch precious public resources. We appreciate your past support of these important partnerships, and urge you now to reauthorize MAP-21. Congestion on our highways is continuing to increase, with highway delays costing our region over \$800 million in 2013. By 2040, the population in our service territory will increase by more than one million people, or 30 percent.

To keep the economic engine of this region vibrant and productive, it is critical that transportation infrastructure improvements keep pace with our growth.

As members of the Sound Transit Board, we are building a regional high capacity multi-modal transit system to provide mobility options to commuters who are now wasting productivity and valuable time while stuck in traffic. In 2014, Sound Transit set all-time records for boardings on the regional system, resulting in less congestion and more choice for commuters. In fact, Sound Transit's rate of ridership growth was more than four times that of transit ridership growth nationally with 32 million boardings across the regional light rail, commuter rail and express bus system. We are leveraging and integrating all the transportation services and infrastructure across the region, but unless we can continue to expand our system to reach new residents and businesses, we will lose the mobility improvements we have achieved to date. The continued build-out of the regional transit system is not possible without a continued robust federal partnership and the reauthorization of MAP-21.

We urge you to support legislation to address the funding crisis facing the Highway Trust Fund and to join us in "Standing Up for Transportation."

Sincerely,  
Sound Transit Boardmembers

		
Dow Constantine King County Executive	Paul Roberts Everett Councilmember	Marilyn Strickland Tacoma Mayor

**CHAIR**

**Dow Constantine**  
*King County Executive*

**VICE CHAIRS**

**Paul Roberts**  
*Everett Councilmember*

**Marilyn Strickland**  
*Tacoma Mayor*

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Claudia Balducci**  
*Bellevue Mayor*

**Fred Butler**  
*Issaquah Mayor*

**Dave Earling**  
*Edmonds Mayor*

**Dave Enslow**  
*Sumner Mayor*

**John Lovick**  
*Snohomish County Executive*

**John Marchione**  
*Redmond Mayor*

**Pat McCarthy**  
*Pierce County Executive*

**Joe McDermott**  
*King County Council Vice Chair*

**Mary Moss**  
*Lakewood Councilmember*

**Ed Murray**  
*Seattle Mayor*

**Mike O'Brien**  
*Seattle Councilmember*

**Lynn Peterson**  
*Washington State Secretary of Transportation*


**Larry Phillips**  
*King County Council Chair*


**Dave Upthegrove**  
*King County Councilmember*

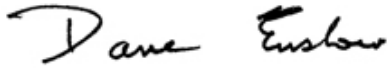
**Peter von Reichbauer**  
*King County Councilmember*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**Joni Earl**

  
Claudia Balducci  
Bellevue Mayor

  
Fred Butler  
Issaquah Mayor

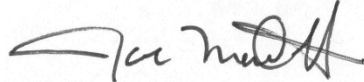
  
Dave Earling  
Edmonds Mayor

  
Dave Enslow  
Sumner Mayor


  
John Lovick  
Snohomish County Executive

  
John Marchione  
Redmond Mayor

  
Pat McCarthy  
Pierce County Executive

  
Joe McDermott  
King County Council Vice Chair

  
Mary Moss  
Lakewood Councilmember

  
Ed Murray  
Seattle Mayor

  
Mike O'Brien  
Seattle Councilmember

  
Lynn Peterson  
Washington State Secretary of Transportation

  
Larry Phillips  
King County Council Chair

  
Dave Upthegrove  
King County Councilmember

  
Pete von Reichbauer  
King County Councilmember

cc: Mike Harbour, Sound Transit Acting Chief Executive Officer