



July 7, 2020

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

Dear Senator Murray:

As the Sound Transit Board of Directors, we are writing to thank you for your continued support of Sound Transit and to urge you to support and work to enact Section 103 of the “Moving Forward Act” (H.R. 2) as passed by the House of Representatives on July 1, 2020. The provisions covered in Section 103 relate specifically to COVID-19 relief for project sponsors in the Capital Investment Grant Program. If enacted and fully funded, Section 103 would greatly mitigate the negative consequences of the current recession on Sound Transit’s ability to deliver voter-approved transit expansions on time and generate thousands of jobs as we do.

Sound Transit is facing unprecedented revenue losses as a result of the economic shutdown. To face this new reality, the Board is currently taking early steps to realign our capital development program. This realignment, which will likely require us to defer several projects and slow others, is necessary as we are currently projecting an almost \$1 billion revenue loss through 2021, and a \$12 billion loss to our 25-year capital plan through 2041. Increasing the federal share of our existing Full Funding Grant Agreements (FFGAs) would significantly improve our ability to keep our program on track. By putting thousands of people to work, it would also aid in the Puget Sound region’s economic recovery.

Specifically, the provisions in the Moving Forward Act would allow Sound Transit to increase the federal share of our two current FFGAs by 30 percent of the total project costs. Prior to the pandemic, the strong commitment of local tax dollars allowed Sound Transit to compete well for Federal funding as we sought a low federal match for Lynnwood Link of just 36 percent and an even lower 25 percent federal match for Federal Way Link. Both projects are scheduled to open for service in 2024. Increasing the federal share of these two FFGAs could provide Sound Transit with as much as \$1.9 billion in additional federal support. These provisions would give us the opportunity to continue making progress on the largest transit expansion program in the country and fulfill our commitment to our region’s voters while putting thousands of Washingtonians to work during a recession.

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Peter M. Rogoff

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These particular provisions are exactly the medicine our region needs to keep us moving forward. As Congress considers additional COVID-19 relief, we urge you to include this provision in this or any legislative vehicle that might get enacted this Congress.

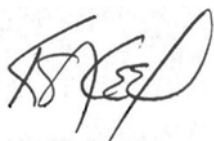
Thank you again for your ongoing partnership as we work together in challenging times to deliver high-capacity transit to the Puget Sound.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us or Sound Transit Chief Executive Officer Peter Rogoff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Members of the Sound Transit Board of Directors

cc: Peter M. Rogoff, Chief Executive Officer



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University Place Councilmember



Dow Constantine
King County Executive



Paul Roberts
Everett Councilmember



Nancy Backus
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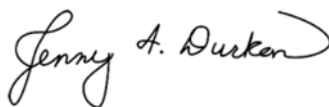
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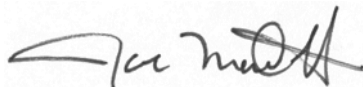
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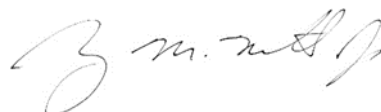
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