



The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
 Secretary  
 U.S. Department of Transportation  
 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
 Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing to ask that the U.S. Department of Transportation execute a Full Funding Grant Agreement with Sound Transit for the Lynnwood Link light rail extension under the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program. As transit leaders throughout the state of Washington and the Puget Sound region we recognize the importance of partnerships in completing this critical project.

The Puget Sound region is one of the fastest growing in the United States, and is forecast to be home to 5 million people by the year 2040. This growth in population is accompanied by an increase in transit use. Sound Transit and each of its partner agencies have seen promising increases in ridership, and the central Puget Sound region has been a nationwide leader in transit ridership growth for the last several years.

As transit partners, transit agencies in Washington State have worked with one another to maximize efficiency and convenience for our transit users by integrating our services for a seamless system, and Sound Transit is an active member in that effort. From aligning schedules and routes to development of the One Regional Card for All (ORCA) unified payment medium, we are growing mobility options for our citizens and attracting people to regular transit use. Execution of the Lynnwood Link FFGA would enhance the public transportation system regionally and contribute to further economic growth.

The transit community across Washington State is excited and confident in Sound Transit's ability to deliver the transit expansion approved by the voters, and many of us have worked diligently to ensure the value of the taxpayer's investment is being maximized. We also recognize that the benefits realized by a project of this magnitude are not just local, but have ancillary benefits to the regional, state, and national economy.

With this in mind, we are hopeful that the federal partnership can join the partnership we have made at the regional and state level with Sound Transit to complete this important project. We respectfully request that you execute the CIG Full Funding Grant Agreement for Lynnwood Link in 2018.

With Regards,



Jenny George  
General Manager  
Asotin County PTBA



Gloria Boyce  
General Manager  
Ben Franklin Transit



Emmett Heath  
Chief Executive Officer  
Community Transit



Tom Hingson  
Director  
Everett Transit



Ann Freeman-Manzanares  
General Manager  
Intercity Transit



Rob Gannon  
General Manager  
King County Metro



John Clauson  
Executive Director  
Kitsap Transit



Ken Mehin  
General Manager  
Grays Harbor Transit



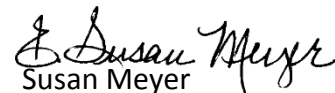
Danette Brannin  
General Manager  
Mason Transit Authority



Sue Dreier  
Chief Executive Officer  
Pierce Transit



Amy Asher  
Transit Manager  
RiverCities Transit



Susan Meyer  
Chief Executive Officer  
Spokane County PTBA



Derrick Wojcik-Damers  
General Manager  
Twin Transit



Peter L. Stark  
General Manager  
Whatcom Transit Authority



Justin Leighton  
Executive Director  
Washington State Transit  
Association

Cc:

Puget Sound Congressional Delegation

K. Jane Williams, Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, USDOT

Sound Transit Board of Directors

Peter Rogoff, Chief Executive Officer, Sound Transit