



March 7, 2022

Nuria Fernandez  
Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
Madam Administrator:

With this letter, I am transmitting requests to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to admit two Sound Transit projects into the Project Development phase in the Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program New Starts category. Together, these two extensions make up the West Seattle to Ballard Link Extension project. They are designated in these requests as the **West Seattle to SODO segment** and the **SODO to Ballard segment**. These are the first two of four major projects for which we anticipate seeking admission into Project Development in the months ahead, the next being the Tacoma Dome and Everett Link Extension projects.

These four projects are part of the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) program approved by voters in the Puget Sound Region in 2016. These light rail segments are critical elements of Sound Transit's work to implement the largest transit expansion program in the nation. The timeline in which we are seeking their entry into the CIG pipeline reflects their respective state of readiness appropriate for entry into Project Development.

We couldn't be more appreciative of the leadership demonstrated by the President, Secretary Buttigieg, yourself, and our Congressional delegation in delivering the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to the American people. This historic infrastructure investment, including an unprecedented boost in funding for the CIG program, calls on all of us to reimagine and accelerate our efforts to deliver these climate friendly mobility improvements. As the nation's first zero-emission light rail system with a proven record of success in delivering Federally supported projects, we stand ready to partner with the FTA in delivering on these Administration priorities.

By separate transmittal, I have sent two formal request letters to Associate Administrator James regarding the West Seattle to SODO and SODO to Ballard projects. As those letters indicate, those two projects are at a state of readiness appropriate for entry into Project Development now and the projects and our path ahead for them are discussed in the request letters.

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**Peter M. Rogoff**

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Sound Transit anticipates seeking entry into Project Development for the Tacoma Dome and Everett Link projects in the months ahead as those projects advance through the environmental review.

The Tacoma Dome Link Extension will add nearly 10 miles to our regional light rail system, connecting Federal Way and Tacoma, with four new light rail stations. These stations will also provide connections to other regional transit services, including Sounder commuter rail, local and regional bus services, and Amtrak. This project is a critical element of our regional north-south spine and will bring robust transit service to south King County and Pierce County.

The Everett Link Extension will add six Snohomish County stations to the region's light rail network. The 16-mile project extends Link service north from Lynnwood City Center to the SW Everett Industrial Center and Paine Field, SR 526/Evergreen Way, and downtown Everett. Everett Link will provide fast, reliable connections along the congested I-5 corridor.

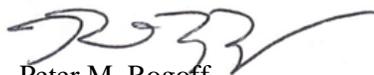
The four projects referenced here are not the only ones in the ST3 program for which we anticipate seeking assistance from the CIG program. We are currently evaluating projects for their appropriateness for inclusion in the Expedited Project Delivery, Core Capacity and Small Starts categories as well.

In addition to our pursuit of funding from FTA grant resources, Sound Transit also anticipates continuing our strong relationship with the Build America Bureau as a borrower in the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program. Each of the projects discussed here is a candidate for a TIFIA loan and we will be working with the Bureau and your team to develop a funding and finance plan for them that will make the most efficient use of federal and regional resources. We also are examining the value of pursuing Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing loans for projects on our Sounder commuter rail system.

Sound Transit values its partnership with you and your colleagues at the FTA and the Department of Transportation. As you implement the historic investments authorized and appropriated in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we stand ready to work with you to ensure public transportation expansion in the Puget Sound contributes not only to our own region's growth, equity and sustainability but to the nation's as well.

Thank you for consideration of our requests in the attached letters. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,



Peter M. Rogoff  
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Sound Transit Board of Directors

Puget Sound Congressional Delegation

Brooke Belman, Chief of Staff and Interim CEO beginning June 1

Kimberly Farley, Chief Systems Officer

Mary Cummings, Chief Administrative Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer

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Lisa Wolterink, Deputy Executive Director, Fares, Grants and Revenue