The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590  

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing in support of the TIGER III grant application submitted by the City of Mountlake Terrace, Washington to complete the construction of a strategically important corridor (56th Avenue West) critical to the City’s planned redevelopment of its downtown core.

According to the City, this project will revitalize an economically distressed downtown, and encourage a transit-oriented community adjacent to a completed Transit Station on Interstate 5 with strong existing transit connections in place. TIGER III grant funds would be used to complete construction of this important corridor in order to improve connectivity, encourage use of the regional transit center, and spur transit-orientated development in the adjacent Town Center Zone and Freeway Transit Zone. Additionally, the project aims to help establish an innovative Energy Conservation District for the region to enhance sustainable development.

I understand that the City’s grant application is for $12,077,062 and when combined with local revenues from the City of $2,415,412, the total of $14,492,475 can be immediately bid, putting the money to work quickly. I am especially pleased to hear that the City’s goals for this project include the creation of 1,400 new jobs and 800 mixed-use multifamily housing units. Because of the location of the project, it will have a positive effect upon the region as well as locally.

I urge your full and fair consideration of the grant application from the City of Mountlake Terrace, and thank you for your efforts in support of local government.

Very truly yours,

JAY INSLEE  
Member of Congress  

JRI/km