October 21, 2011

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

RE: City of Mountlake Terrace, WA “Main Street” Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. LaHood,

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

This project, called the “Main Street” Reconstruction Project, is a key component in revitalizing the economically distressed downtown “Main Street” in the City of Mountlake Terrace, and will encourage transit-oriented development by taking advantage of the outstanding transit connections at the adjacent regional transit station on Interstate 5. The City’s goals for this project include the creation of 1,400 new jobs and 800 mixed-use multifamily housing units.

TIGER III grant funds would be used to complete construction of this important corridor to greatly improve connectivity, encourage use of the regional transit center and support the transit-oriented development.

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 provides all the funding for the project making it immediately ready to bid, putting the money to work quickly. Because of the location of the project, it will have a positive effect upon the region as well as locally.

I hope that you will support of the grant application from the City of Mountlake Terrace, and thank you for your efforts in support of local government.

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon  
County Executive