October 31, 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 Secretary LaHood,

Snohomish County PUD supports the City of Mountlake Terrace’s TIGER III Program grant application for their “Main Street” Reconstruction Project. Snohomish County PUD provides electricity, water and associated services to its customers in Snohomish County and Camano Island, including the City of Mountlake Terrace.

This project, as envisioned by the City, is an innovative approach to incorporate energy efficiency approaches, such as a ground source heating/cooling network, when they reconstruct a strategically important arterial system at 56th Avenue West. This arterial is critical to the City’s planned redevelopment of its downtown core.

TIGER III grant funds will be used to reconstruct an important arterial system that will greatly improve connectivity, encourage use of the regional transit center, and spur transit-oriented development in the adjacent Town Center and Freeway/Tourist zone.

The “Main Street” Reconstruction Project will revitalize an economically distressed downtown core and encourage a transit-oriented community adjacent to a recently completed Transit Station along Interstate 5. The City’s goals for this project also include the creation of an Energy Conservation District, along with 1,400 new jobs, 800 mixed-use multifamily housing units, and better transportation connectivity and efficiency. The project will not only complement our ongoing long-range energy efficiency goals, but support the entire region’s effort to meet growing demand through conservation and increased energy efficiency.

As General Manager of the 2nd largest public utility in the state of Washington, I urge your strong consideration of the TIGER III grant application from the City of Mountlake Terrace. Thank you for your continued support of local government, energy efficiency, economic development, and job creation.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Klein  
General Manager  
Snohomish County PUD