Washington State Department of Transportation
Paula J. Hammond, P.E.
Secretary of Transportation

Transportation Building
310 Maple Park Avenue S.E.
P.O. Box 47300
Olympia, WA 98504-7300

360-705-7000
TTY: 1-800-833-6388
www.wsdot.wa.gov

October 16, 2012

Mr. Mark Kehrli
Director of the Office of Transportation Operations
Federal Highway Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., HOTO-1
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Kehrli:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Highways & Local Programs (H&LP) requests interim approval for the optional use of the rectangular rapid flashing beacon as a warning beacon on behalf of cities and counties within Washington State. H&LP provides educational, technical, and financial support to cities, counties, and other transportation partners such as tribal governments, ports, and transit agencies.

All jurisdictions choosing to use the RRFB as a warning beacon will do so under the technical conditions as stipulated in FHWA's Interim Approval Memorandum for the Optional Use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (IA-11) dated July 16, 2008. Each jurisdiction will maintain an inventory of all locations where a RRFB is installed.

Each jurisdiction will agree to restore the site(s) of the interim approval to a condition that complies with the provision in the MUTCD within three months following the issuance of a Final Rule. Each jurisdiction also agrees to terminate the use of the application if the implementation of the interim approval creates any significant direct or indirect safety concerns.

Thank you for your consideration of our request for interim approval.

Sincerely,

Aaron Butters
Manager, Engineering Services
WSDOT Highways and Local Programs

AB:sas
cc: Don Petersen, FHWA – Washington State Division Office