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October 25, 2011

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

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I write in support of the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) application for TIGER III discretionary grant funds for the Montlake Triangle Project in Seattle, Washington.

Over the past several years, the State of Washington, local and regional transit agencies, the City of Seattle, and the University of Washington have partnered together to develop a vision for the triangle-shaped area known as the Montlake Triangle to become a future multimodal center. The center is a key regional transit destination with connections to the University of Washington campus and medical center, local and regional bus service, regional bicycle and pedestrian trails, and the University Link light rail station that will connect to downtown Seattle when it opens in 2016.

I understand that the Montlake Triangle Project integrates several WSDOT projects in the Triangle area focused on accommodating safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle movements, fast and reliable transit service, and enhanced connections between local bus routes, bus rapid transit and light rail service. This Project represents the culmination of years of coordination and multi-agency partnering to create a truly integrated multimodal center.

The Puget Sound region is growing rapidly and this new center will serve thousands of people each day. I applaud WSDOT for their efforts to improve access to the regional transit system, and I urge you to give their grant application your full and fair consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee", written over a white background.

JAY INSLEE
Member of Congress

JRI/km