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April 2, 2014

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: University of Washington Burke-Gilman Multimodal Connector TIGER VI
Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Lake City Neighborhood Alliance enthusiastically supports the University of Washington's (UW) application for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER grant program. Funding from this grant will be dedicated to the Burke-Gilman Multimodal Connector. Improvements to the Burke-Gilman Trail (BGT) will significantly improve safety, economic growth, the aging BGT infrastructure, livability, and environmental sustainability. If funded, this project will be completed before Sound Transit's UW Link light rail station opens. Residents living in or commuters passing through Seattle's Lake City neighborhoods will directly benefit from completion of this critical transportation and recreational corridor. Thus, LCNA gives it our highest endorsement.

The BGT is a regional treasure and in fact is the most heavily-used trail in Washington State. It passes directly through the Lake City neighborhoods of Cedar Park and Matthews Beach—Cedar park is about 6 miles north of the UW—and is enjoyed and utilized by recreational and commuter cyclists, and others who stroll, walk, run, skate and board along its entire length. Many of our neighborhood residents and commuters to the north are UW faculty, staff, or students, and many of these individuals bike to campus. The BGT's growing popularity has led to overcrowding and conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists—perhaps nowhere more so than at the UW campus.

Additional development, including a new light rail station at the UW campus adjacent to the BGT, is anticipated to dramatically increase trail demand as the BGT will connect North Seattle with light rail. Sound Transit's UW Link light rail station is scheduled to open in 2016, bringing thousands more commuters to the already-congested BGT for connections to education, jobs, and opportunities at the UW, downtown Seattle, and beyond. This TIGER VI grant represents our community's last chance to complete this project before light rail opens and ensures we make the most of the region's multi-billion dollar investment.

With the Burke-Gilman Multimodal Connector, the UW is planning for the region's active transportation future. New light rail stations, high-density

residential living, and expansions of the bicycle and pedestrian networks continue to transform the region and encourage walking and bicycling. The improved BGT complements these efforts by creating a world-class transportation, recreation and nature corridor in the heart of the region.

In summary, LCNA strongly endorses this well-conceived project and recommends that it receive full funding. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra Adams Motzer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and 'M'.

Sandra Adams Motzer
Chair
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