



## OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

April 18, 2014

Secretary Anthony Foxx  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As members of the Oregon Legislature representing a key transportation corridor in the southwest portion of the Portland metropolitan region, we are pleased to express our **support** for 2014 TIGER grant funding for the Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division Opportunity Crescent projects. Our region understands the highly competitive nature of this program and has worked hard to limit the number of applications and to ensure that all applications meet the program criteria.

The Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division projects are significant to our metropolitan region and will focus resources on five important places and the educational institutions that define them: the Mt. Hood Community College area; the Portland Community College Jade District; the region's Innovation Quadrant; the Portland Community College Sylvania neighborhood area; and the Tigard Triangle.

Together, these two corridors create a single crescent connecting the east and west sides of the metro region and reaching many neighborhoods characterized by higher poverty rates and more ethnic diversity than in other parts of Portland. The Southwest Corridor runs through an area home to 26 percent of the region's jobs and 11 percent of the population.

We have appreciated how the local partners involved with the Southwest Corridor project have reached out to the legislative delegation in this area and worked to include us in the project partnership. We are participating as members of ID Southwest, a public-private group of community leaders who are committed to implementing the Southwest Corridor Plan, and are encouraged by the diverse interests that are energetically working together to accomplish community priorities.

With this grant, our region will undertake detailed planning in the five key nodes named above, aligning land use, local transportation choices, and development plans. The results will enable the educational institutions and others to anticipate and capture the economic, social and environmental value of planned regional high capacity transit investments. In addition, we will also develop place-based agreements that identify responsibilities for implementation of the plans. The agreements will focus on such issues as development patterns, housing affordability, safety improvements, infrastructure funding, job training, hiring, and ongoing participation and communication.

A 2014 TIGER grant for the Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division Opportunity Crescent projects would help bring the benefits of high capacity transit to the entire Portland metropolitan region and support the success of the next generation of residents by increased access to educational opportunity areas in our region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Devlin", is placed on a light yellow rectangular background.

Sen. Richard Devlin  
Senate District 19

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ginny Burdick", is written in a cursive style.

Senator Ginny Burdick  
Senate District 18

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret Doherty", is written in a cursive style.

Rep. Margaret Doherty  
House District 35