



Tigard - Tualatin School District 23J  
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April 23, 2014

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Tigard-Tualatin School District is pleased to support Metro's 2014 TIGER grant request for funding to plan the Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division Opportunity Crescent projects.

Planning for the Southwest Corridor project has particular implications for our school district.

- Our offices are located off 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave. in the heart of the Southwest Corridor's Tigard Triangle.
- Three of our schools, Tigard High, Durham Education Center and the Tigard-Tualatin Online Academy, could be directly accessed by the transit options being proposed.
- Both Durham Center and the Online Academy draw students from across our school district. Having convenient transportation is crucial for these facilities to be accessible to all students.
- Well-planned transportation options that reduce congestion in the Tigard, Tualatin and Durham areas could benefit other schools in our district as well by shortening bus route times and improving overall accessibility for parents, staff and students.

The list, above, does not include the planning that could be generated for the potential partnerships made possible by improved access for Tigard-Tualatin students to PCC Sylvania, PCC Workforce Development Center, PSU and OHSU.

It makes sense for Metro and the partnering agencies to apply for TIGER funding to support planning for a transportation system that links key parts of our school district as well as the Portland metropolitan community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ernie Brown, superintendent