



Date: April 18, 2014

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Tualatin Chamber of Commerce is pleased to express our **support** for 2014 TIGER grant funding for the Southwest Corridor and Powell-Division Opportunity Crescent projects. The Chamber's mission is to promote, educate and support a vital business community and enhance the livability of the greater Tualatin, Oregon area. Outcomes for this funding will allow Metro and its partners to maximize already invested funds and position our communities to get the greatest benefit out of a potential HCT investment.

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.

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 connect Oregon's largest high schools with the community colleges, PSU and OHSU, as well as employers around the region. This grant will help bring the benefits of high capacity transit to the entire Portland metropolitan region and which is critical for access to education and jobs for the next generation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Moholt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Moholt, CEO, IOM
Tualatin Chamber of Commerce
18791 SW Martinazzi Ave.
Tualatin, OR. 97062