May 30, 2013

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

RE: University of Washington Burke-Gilman Trail TIGER V Application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Our Ballard neighborhood based organization has actively pursued the completion and improvements to Seattle’s historic Burke-Gilman Trail from 1998. This has been an effort to show the value of pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities as a critical component of any urban and regional transportation system.

The University of Washington Multi-Modal Connector is the next critical generation of urban design for this location. Our Link Rapid Transit Station, the University of Washington Ranier Vista Project, and the State SR 520 Evergreen Corridor Project are all delivering capital improvements in the billions of dollars to this location. There is a dire need to bring this arc of the Trail into the 21st Century.

The story is being clearly told. Seattle is rapidly embracing human powered transportation as an alternative to carbon based systems for both personal health, and community culture. Our constituents, with a mailing list of over 700, support the completion, increased connectivity, and improvements that this project represents. Please fund this Project.

Sincerely,

Davidya Kasperzyk, AIA          Jennifer Macuiba          Kevin Carrabine

Executive Board Members, Friends of the Burke-Gilman Trail
http://www.burkegilmantrail.org/TrailDesign

CC:  Senator Patty Murray
     Senator Maria Cantwell
     Governor Jay Inslee
     Congressman Jim McDermott
     President Michael K. Young, University of Washington