May 20, 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 Mr. Secretary:

I am writing in support of the University of Washington’s application for the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER grant program to fund the Burke-Gilman Trail Multi-Modal Connector.

The Burke-Gilman Trail is the most heavily-used trail in Washington State, and becomes increasingly popular every year. Cyclist and pedestrian safety, however, necessitates some significant improvements. The Burke-Gilman Trail Multi-Modal Connector, as proposed by the University of Washington, will greatly enhance the region’s 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 connector complements these efforts by creating a world-class transportation, recreation, and nature corridor in the heart of the region.

As captain of my campus’s bike-to-work team, I can attest to the importance of this trail, and I am pleased to support the University of Washington’s Burke-Gilman Trail Multi-Modal Connector. I strongly urge the U.S. Department of Transportation’s consideration of the University of Washington’s application.

Respectfully,

David S. Goldstein, Ph.D.
Director, Teaching and Learning Center
University of Washington

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