

Denis Law
Mayor

City of
Renton



Mayor's Office

May 14, 2009

The Honorable Dave Reichert
U.S. House of Representatives
1730 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Reichert:

I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Renton's Surface Transportation Reauthorization High Priority Project Request for the Rainier Avenue South (SR 167) Improvements Project. This project improves an existing major transportation facility, State Route 167, to a more efficient multi-modal transportation corridor that will serve existing and future high-density mixed-use developments along the corridor and within the adjacent Renton urban center. Rainier Avenue South is a heavily traveled corridor (50,000 vehicles per day) with significant traffic congestion, vehicle delay and lengthened travel time, particularly for the approximately 20,000 daily transit riders on the 473 daily bus trips that travel the corridor. Narrow sidewalks adjacent to this heavily traveled roadway, insufficient pedestrian-scale illumination, and substandard accommodation for persons with disabilities all contribute to a less than desirable pedestrian environment.

The Rainier Ave South (SR 167) Improvements Project will install Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes; left-turn lanes at intersections; a southbound right-turn lane at the intersection of Rainier Avenue South and South Grady Way; larger curb return radii; traffic signal upgrades, including signal pre-emption and signal coordination; new curbs and gutters; landscaped medians; wider sidewalks; driveways and pedestrian ramps per current ADA standards; marked crosswalks at each intersection; planted pedestrian buffers, including street trees; street lighting, including pedestrian-scale illumination; public art; street furniture; and a stormwater quality and conveyance system. This funding request, combined with other funding, will implement these improvements.

The City of Renton is deeply committed to an effective solicitation of public comment on this project. We have already held a public forum focused on the design of the project, for which the promotion entailed media outreach, mailings to nearby businesses and residences, and door-to-door outreach to every business along this corridor. We intend to continue a high level of communication and outreach as this project unfolds, and will continue to incorporate feedback received in our project and construction planning.

Congressman Dave Reichert

May 14, 2009

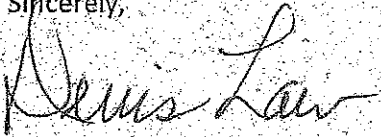
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The total project cost is \$39.4 million. Other secured sources of funding include Sound Transit (37%), Transportation Improvement Board (18%), Federal-ARRA (5%), WSDOT (11%), City of Renton (29%), or in dollar amounts: Sound Transit (\$14,600,000); WSDOT (\$4,500,000); Transportation Improvement Board (\$7,000,000); City of Renton (\$7,300,000).

Given the merit of this project, our commitment to public input and the other secured sources of funding, I strongly request that you make this project a high priority project in the upcoming Surface Transportation Reauthorization.

Thank you for your consideration and hard work for the people of Renton.

Sincerely,



Denis Law

Mayor

cc: Renton City Council
Gregg Zimmerman
Peter Hahn
Alexander Pietsch
Suzanne Dale Estey

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAVE REICHERT (WA-08)

CONGRESSIONAL SITE VISIT CERTIFICATION

In the interests of accountability and transparency, we require that either the Congressman or a member of the Congressman's professional staff visit each project site requesting federal funding. This will enable our office to more thoroughly assess the merits of each project and ensure that limited taxpayer funds are invested wisely.

Upon completion of the congressional site visit, please complete this form and have a representative from the organization (not a representative from a lobbying firm) sign it. The Congressional Staff Member visiting the site will be responsible for collecting the form at the time of the visit.

I hereby certify that on May 5, 2009 Congressman Dave Reichert/a professional staff member from Congressman Dave Reichert's office visited our organization/project for the purposes of reviewing our request for federal funding.

PROJECT NAME: Rainier Avenue South/SR 167 ^{Improvements} Project

DATE OF CONGRESSIONAL VISIT: 5/5/09

NAME OF PERSON CERTIFYING: Suzanne Dale Estey

TITLE OF PERSON CERTIFYING: Economic Development Director

LEGAL NAME OF ENTITY MAKING REQUEST: City of Renton

LEGAL ADDRESS OF ENTITY MAKING REQUEST: 1055 S. Grady Way ^{Renton} WA 98055

SIGNATURE: Suzanne Dale Estey DATE: 5/5/09

MEMBER/CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER: Thomas A Young

SIGNATURE: Thomas A Young DATE: 5.5.09