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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4708

31 May 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I respectfully request that you give all due consideration to the enclosed competitive TIGER grant application from the City of Fife for the Port of Tacoma Interchange Improvement Project, located in Washington State.

According to the applicant, the Port of Tacoma Interchange Improvement Project will provide road, intersection, and interchange improvements to the Port of Tacoma, the surrounding industrial area, and businesses in the Cities of Fife and Tacoma.

The City of Fife says grant funding will be used toward this multi-phased plan to improve the Port of Tacoma Road/Interstate 5 interchange, Pacific Highway East and the Port of Tacoma Road. The applicant notes that the interchange serves as the primary truck route between Interstate 5 and the Port—a critical regional and national cargo gateway. The City of Fife also notes that the Puget Sound is the third largest gateway in North America for containerized cargo and that 70 percent of international container cargo passing through the Port of Tacoma is bound for locations in the American Midwest and East Coast. The applicant states that this grant funding would help improve the level of service for trucks traveling to and from the Port and further enhance the Port's importance to the regional and national economy, which indirectly accounts for more than 43,000 jobs and generates \$637 million in annual wages in Pierce County, WA alone.

As the Representative of Washington's Eighth Congressional District, I am pleased to facilitate the City of Fife's request for support and ask that you give their application fair and thorough consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact Zack Guill of my district office staff at (425) 677-7414 if I can provide you with additional information or answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Reichert".

DAVID G. REICHERT
Member of Congress
Eighth District, Washington