

November 15, 2010

Ms. Joni Earl, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Sound Transit
401 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Sound Transit Phase II (ST2) investment program – LRT to 272nd Street

Dear Joni:

This letter is to thank you for the candor and openness that Sound Transit has demonstrated in laying out its significant budget shortfalls, particularly as they impact our communities in South King County. But this letter is also to underscore just how critical we believe it is for ST to maintain a strong commitment and investment strategy to extend Light Rail Transit (LRT) to 272nd Street as planned – and our desire to work hand-in-hand with you and the agency to help make that happen.

We are appreciative of the preliminary budget plan to allocate \$2.5 million toward consulting work that would look at specific aspects of the LRT line from 200th Street to 272nd, and help understand precise cost and alignment issues related to the extension.

In the meantime, however, we also would propose that ST work with a group of South County elected officials to develop, hand-in hand with ST staff, a plan going forward after analyzing financing and preliminary development costs and assumptions for the LRT to 272nd. We believe it will be important to see how an extension of the 15-year timeline for bringing LRT to 272nd would help maintain the project, and how we might utilize cost savings and revenue enhancements from any aerial vs. at-grade alignment choices, bonding assumptions, LRT station locations and amenities, etc.

In summary, we believe the extension of the LRT line to 272nd is critical for the future of our part of the County, for our land-use planning, and for our ability to accommodate population and job growth. We also are convinced that the support ST2 received in South King County was due in large part to the agency's commitment to bring LRT to South County and ultimately to Pierce County as well. It is critical that we preserve this commitment – and, in turn, our trust with area residents and voters.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with you on this issue, and thank you again for opening your process to us.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Linda Kochmar, Mayor
City of Federal Way



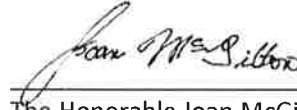
The Honorable Jim Haggerton, Mayor
City of Tukwila



The Honorable Suzette Cooke, Mayor
City of Kent



The Honorable Richard Hildreth, Mayor
City of Pacific



The Honorable Joan McGilton, Mayor
City of Burien



The Honorable Robert Sheckler, Mayor
City of Des Moines



The Honorable Margaret Harto, Mayor
City of Covington



The Honorable Terry Anderson, Mayor
City of Sea-Tac