

LARRY PHILLIPS

Chair
Metropolitan King County Council

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MAY 16 2005
WSDOT - UCO
PROJECT DIRECTOR

May 13, 2005

Douglas B. MacDonald
Transportation Secretary
Washington State Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 47316
Olympia WA 98504-7316

Dear Secretary MacDonald:

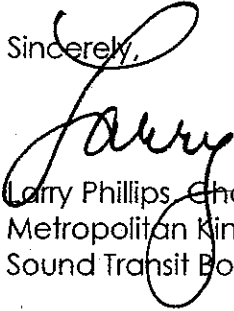
Doug
I am pleased that the state transportation budget recently passed by the legislature included funding to continue the momentum of the State Route 520 Bridge (SR 520) Replacement and HOV Project. This is an extraordinarily positive development for improving the region's mobility, and I look forward to doing my part to help secure regional funding for this project.

A replacement project of this magnitude requires careful planning to maximize opportunities to connect transportation hubs and address choke points. As you know from your service on the Sound Transit Board, Sound Transit has selected a preferred North Link light rail alignment that includes a station just south of Husky Stadium. **I would like to request that the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) incorporate into the SR 520 replacement design a convenient transit connection and rider transfer point between SR 520 and the light rail station.**

Too often, timing, funding, and agency coordination issues prevent the type of comprehensive planning necessary for true big-picture thinking in transportation designs. Whether by integrating the Montlake community's design proposal into project plans or developing an alternative design, I hope WSDOT will take advantage of this opportunity to design a seamless transportation system that makes sense to future generations of commuters. With so many talented

leaders, planners, and citizens involved in the SR 520 project, I am confident this can be accomplished.

Sincerely,



Larry Phillips, Chair
Metropolitan King County Council
Sound Transit Board Member

LP:lz

cc: SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Executive Committee
SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Technical Steering
Committee
SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Advisory Committee
Sound Transit Board
Joni Earl, Chief Executive Officer, Sound Transit
Montlake Community Council
Maureen Sullivan, WSDOT Project Director