



City of Des Moines

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October 17, 2014

Honorable Governor Jay Inslee
State of Washington
P.O Box 40002
Olympia, Washington 98604-0002

Subject: FY 2016 Public Works Trust Fund

Dear Honorable Governor Inslee:

I wish to express the Des Moines City Council's full support of the Public Works Trust Board (PWTB) 2016 construction loan-funding program. The PWTB recommendations will enable the State of Washington to provide approximately \$170 million in Trust Fund revolving low interest loans advancing \$387 million in construction projects throughout the State. The Trust Fund provides near term statewide benefits by:

- Creating and maintaining employment opportunities;
- Supporting economic growth for taxpayers, local governments, and businesses; and
- Construction of vital transportation projects in an increasingly competitive environment.

Locally, these revolving loan funds provided seed money over the past 10 years allowing the City of Des Moines to complete critical transportation infrastructure vital for economic development in the City. Trust fund loans were critical, at both the design and construction phases, leveraging our limited resources and successfully competing for regional, state, and federal transportation dollars.

As an example, critical safety, and multi-modal transportation improvements were funded with PWTB loans on Pacific Highway South (SR99), now enabling the operation of the first rapid transit line in King County. These highway improvements are also supporting economic redevelopment as evidenced by the Sheraton Hotel currently under construction in the City of Des Moines.

In addition, the fund was instrumental in launching the design of the City's Transportation Gateway Project. This project not only provided critical vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle capacity for the Port of Seattle's 87 acre Des Moines Creek Business Park, but cemented a partnership with the City of SeaTac in constructing a new 24th/28th Avenue South access roadway to Sea-Tac International Airport. Use of this new freight corridor is intended to support economic redevelopment of properties impacted by Sea-Tac International Airport as well as alleviate congestion on SR99. Of particular interest to the City is FY 2016 funding assistance that will allow completion of the last remaining segment of the Transportation Gateway Project on South 216th Street, a summary of which is attached.

The Trust Fund continues to shrink and we fear it will evaporate as a very meaningful statewide financing mechanism supporting critical capital improvement and economic development programs. We urge inclusion of the PWTB recommendations in the budget and pledge our strong support in the 2015 legislative session.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Kaplan", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Dave Kaplan, Mayor of Des Moines

Cc: Senator Karen Keiser, State of Washington
Representative Tina Orwall, State of Washington
Representative Mia Gregerson, State of Washington
Des Moines City Council
Tony Piasecki, Des Moines City Manager
Stephen Uy, Office of the Governor, External Affairs

Bcc: Alison Hellberg, Association of Washington Cities