



WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

February 13, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate

The Honorable Jay Inslee
United States House of Representatives

Dear Senators Murray and Cantwell and Congressman Inslee:

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the federal appropriations requests that are being pursued by the City of Kirkland. Each of these contributes significantly to the continued safety, security, and economic vitality of the Kirkland community. The projects include:

116th Ave NE Non-Motorized Project – \$2 million

This capital request helps fund completion of bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian facilities south along 116th Ave NE between the Houghton Park & Ride and similar facilities that start at Bellevue's northern city limits and continue to SR-520. 116th Ave NE serves as one of the few north/south transportation corridors connecting Kirkland and Bellevue. 116th Ave NE typically carries over 5,000 vehicles per day and has an 85th percentile speed of 40 mph. Bridle Trails State Park, a 480-acre facility that provides equestrian recreational facilities on a regional and local level is a one of a kind facility within the project limits.

Improvements north and south of the proposed section of 116th Ave NE are now completed and the remaining portion of the corridor has no sidewalks, minimal shoulders – bicycles and pedestrians must use existing travel lane or shoulders and roadway direct/untreated discharge of stormwater enters the adjacent Yarrow Creek. The proposed improvements include new stormwater facilities/stream enhancements, bike lanes and a separated multi-purpose gravel pedestrian/equestrian facility along the east side similar to the Bellevue section.

NE 120th Street extension – \$1.5 million

This capital request helps fund the completion of a key "missing link" in the transportation network of the Totem Lake area of Kirkland. This project is a vital component of the City's overall economic development strategy by providing essential infrastructure to serve the Totem Lake urban center. The Totem Lake area is the economic engine of Kirkland, with retail sales from the area generating one-third of the City's overall sales tax revenue. Totem Lake is also an important center for high-wage jobs associated with the existing university, high-tech, and bio-tech/medical institutions and research companies in the area.

Emergency Services Equipment – \$500,000

This request includes funding for critical emergency response equipment, including emergency back-up generators at the City's community centers and urban search and rescue equipment. This project enhances community safety by equipping Kirkland to respond natural disasters and other threats to public safety.



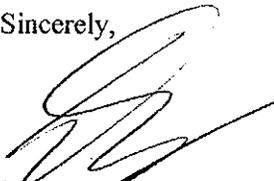
WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Emergency Services Training - \$675,000

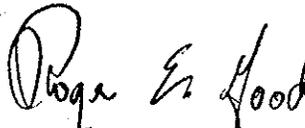
This request helps fund essential training for first responders including tactical training in responding to critical emergency situations, particularly those that may take place in highly populated gathering places. This highly specialized training includes team instruction in disaster recovery after a major structural collapse and countering an active school shooter or terrorist attack, crowd control, and dignitary protection. This training is important for Kirkland community safety, particularly in light of the number of active corporate leaders that live on the eastside and host gatherings of high profile dignitaries in our community.

We would like to thank you for considering these requests and appreciate any support you may be able to provide to secure funds to assist with the completion of these projects.

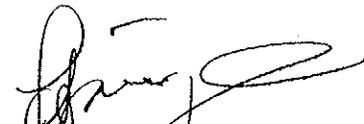
Sincerely,



Senator Oemig
45th Legislative District



Representative Goodman
45th Legislative District



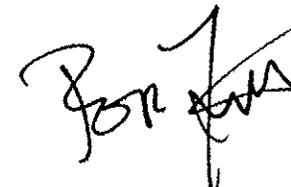
Representative Springer
45th Legislative District



Senator Tom
48th Legislative District



Representative Eddy
48th Legislative District



Representative Hunter
48th Legislative District



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Paula J. Hammond, P.E.
Secretary of Transportation

Transportation Building
310 Maple Park Avenue S.E.
P.O. Box 47300
Olympia, WA 98504-7300
360-705-7000
TTY: 1-800-833-6388
www.wsdot.wa.gov

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
515 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jay Inslee
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Murray and Cantwell and Congressman Inslee:

I am writing to ask for your consideration of the following projects for the FY2010 appropriations process, and they are consistent with Kirkland's regional transportation plan.

- **116th Ave NE Non-Motorized Project**
- **NE 120th St Extension**

If you have any questions about these projects, please contact me at (360) 705-7024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dillon Auyoung".

Dillon Auyoung
Director, Government Relations

DA:st:ac

cc: Erin Leonhart, Kirkland



South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails Neighborhood Association

February 13, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

The South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails Neighborhood Association (SRHBT NA) fully supports the request for federal funding assistance for projects which promote economic development and citizen safety in Kirkland.

The **116th Avenue NE Non-Motorized Project** is especially important to us because this street within our neighborhood provides the primary access to one of our local gems, Bridle Trails State Park. Bridle Trails Neighborhood (BTN) borders the entire north and west boundaries of the park, the only park of its kind west of the Mississippi. The equestrian users of the park heartily welcome the many hikers and local walkers from our community who share the trails valued for their natural beauty and solitude.

Being primarily equestrian in nature, safe access to the park for our BTN residents and visitors is extremely important. Currently 116th Avenue NE has narrow or non-existent shoulders, and it is not a safe environment for either horses or pedestrians. We need to have safer access to the park for it to fulfill its potential as a healthful recreation facility for our neighborhood residents and users from across Washington. The proposed project would accomplish this objective, and we hope that your support will make it possible.

We also support the City proposals for **Emergency Services Equipment and Emergency Services Training**. Wind, rain, snow, earthquake and man-made emergencies—all can have a profound effect on our neighborhood safety and security. SRHBT NA has promoted heightened awareness and capability of individuals and small groups of residents through the local Citizen Emergency Response Team training in cooperation with our local fire and police departments. As individuals and neighbors we will do our best to attend to our immediate needs, but our response to any large scale event will necessarily be limited by the scope of our own equipment and training. We also need capable and well-equipped official responders from the City on site as soon as practical.

We thank you for your help in seeking funding assistance for these programs for the City of Kirkland and our residents.

Jeanette Simecek
President
South Rose Hills/Bridle Trails
Neighborhood Association



February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

The Lake Washington Saddle Club is a local 501(c)4 with a long history in the community of supporting the equestrian lifestyle and protecting the interests of Bridle Trails State Park. The board appreciates and supports the City of Kirkland in its efforts to design and construct local non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE. We believe that it will greatly improve safety and accessibility for all the user groups who use this corridor.

The unique nature of the Bridle Trails area calls for thoughtful planning and a cooperative arrangement for local traffic and non-motorized user groups' access on 116th Avenue. Access to the State Park entrance and travel on 116th Avenue NE is complicated by the residential and equestrian nature of the neighborhood. The community needs these proposed improvements for access to local stables and the pedestrian/equestrian trail system within the State Park. Bicycling commuters need a viable and safe north-south bike lane from this southern part of Kirkland into Bellevue. Pedestrians on their way to one of two local elementary schools or to Bridle Trails State Park's main entrance need a defined walkway.

The improvements along this corridor are essential for the safety of all the user groups who use this corridor. Because of the semi-rural equestrian flavor of the neighborhood, the treatment of pedestrian and equestrian paths and bicycle lanes has been difficult to reconcile. Kirkland has done a great job of designing a solution that provides safe access for all three user groups.

Kirkland has done a good job in retaining the local flavor of its unique neighborhoods while providing smart and sustainable growth. The City continues to support the equestrian lifestyle with thoughtful solutions to the pressures of suburban living while protecting our unique interest. The City has built successful partnerships with the local equestrian community. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State, and protect this little gem of a park and its equine neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Suzanne S. Kagen'.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Kagen

Lake Washington Saddle Club, President



February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

The Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (KAN) expresses our strong support for the City of Kirkland's request for funds to address the particular needs in our community which affect our safety and well-being and support our local economic growth.

KAN is an umbrella group comprising the leadership of Kirkland's eleven Neighborhood Associations. Our objectives are to foster communication between the neighborhood residents and the City's elected and administrative leaders and to facilitate and encourage a sense of community which leads to safety, security and vibrancy in our neighborhoods. We are proud of Kirkland and what we have achieved. We hope to continue the infrastructure improvements which contribute to the economic vitality and safety of the entire community.

The City is requesting funding assistance in four areas, and we wish to express our support for all four requests.

116th Avenue NE Non-Motorized Project

This project will complete a much-needed comprehensive link between Kirkland and Bellevue, a link which currently is characterized by poor or non-existent roadway shoulders and bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian traffic in the presence of high levels of fast moving motor vehicle traffic. Charitably put, it is unsafe for all but motor vehicle traffic today. Yet the roadway is a necessary path for commuting and recreational bicyclists and for pedestrians and equestrians entering and departing Bridle Trails State Park, the pre-eminent equestrian park in the Puget Sound Region. The completion of this link is of considerable importance to the safety and welfare within our community, especially within our Bridle Trails, South Rose Hill, Central Houghton and Everest neighborhoods, and will enhance and encourage bicycle commuters and recreational cyclists to use a "finally safe" route.

NE 120th Street Extension

The NE 120th Street Extension project will provide economic and recreational benefits to Kirkland's North Rose Hill and Totem Lake neighborhoods. This new route will provide enhanced and safer connectivity among residential, educational, health and commercial facilities, whether by motor vehicle, bicycle or foot. Where the current streets skirt the commercial area, the new route will provide a direct route into the heart of the vital Totem Lake commercial area, to increased urban transit opportunities and to safer and less challenging routes to medical and educational facilities for foot and bicycle traffic.

Emergency Services Equipment

The citizens of Kirkland and the City leadership have taken giant strides in educating our residents about the effects of emergent events, including natural disasters, and the need for all parts of the community to be prepared. Throughout the city the on-going Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) program, teamed with the Amateur Radio Emergency System (ARES), and the role individuals and teams of individuals can play until official responders arrive is one prime example. Two critical parts of these citizen-volunteer programs are communication and safety. The emergency response equipment in this request further advances our ability to take care of ourselves in an emergent situation.

Emergency Services Training

I addressed the on-going educational programs related to CERT and ARES in the prior paragraph. This request goes to the issue of official first responders who must be capable of addressing any number of matters quickly and effectively. In addition to making our police and fire units more effective, this additional training can be leveraged through education within the community to enhance our CERT and ARES programs and further our self-sufficiency in emergent situations.

We are proud of our community and the relationships we have encouraged and nurtured among our residential neighborhoods, our business communities, our schools and institutions and our city government. We hope that you can help the City obtain federal assistance funding for these programs and help all of us to keep Kirkland, our home, this vibrant community we have created.

Thank you for your consideration.



Jim McElwee
Coordinator
Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods

Board of Directors

John Stewart
President
Jim Davis
Vice President
Malia Langworthy
Treasurer
Charles Redmond
Secretary
Cleve Stockmeyer
Director
David Ramsay
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Pyatok & Associates
Charles Royer
*Urban Health Initiative &
Former Mayor of Seattle*
Anne Vernez-Moudon, PhD
University of Washington
Bill Weis, PhD
Seattle University

Staff

Lisa Quinn
Executive Director
Jen Cole
*Safe Routes to School
Program Director*
Seth Schromen-Wawrin
*Active Communities
Program Director*
Megan Jackson
*Community Organizer,
Safe Routes to School*

**314 1st Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98104
206.652.2310 ph
206.381.1631 fx
www.feetfirst.info**

February 13, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

This capital request helps fund completion of bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian facilities south along 116th Ave NE between the Houghton Park & Ride and similar facilities that start at Bellevue's northern city limits and continue to SR-520. 116th Ave NE serves as one of the few north/south transportation corridors connecting Kirkland and Bellevue. 116th Ave NE typically carries over 5,000 vehicles per day and has an 85th percentile speed of 40 mph.

Improvements north and south of the proposed section of 116th Ave NE are now completed and the remaining portion of the corridor has no sidewalks, minimal shoulders – bicycles and pedestrians must use existing travel lane or shoulders and roadway direct/untreated discharge of storm water enters the adjacent Yarrow Creek. The proposed improvements include new storm water facilities/stream enhancements, bike lanes and a separated multi-purpose gravel pedestrian/equestrian facility along the east side similar to the Bellevue section.

Feet First endorses non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE/ emergency preparedness training and equipment / extension of NE 120th Street) because it would provide a safer environment for people to walk.

The City of Kirkland is committed to Active Transportation. To that end it has been working with Feet First to develop a community based walking map. Additionally, as the lead agency of the State's Safe Routes to School program we have engaged the city and school district in a School Share an online project for parents involved in safe routes to school project. I am continually impressed by the City's commitment to improve the health of their community and environment.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transportation options and quality of life improvements. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding to be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live, work and play in Washington State.



Feet First supports the City's of Kirkland's continued investment in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit, biking and walking options.

Thank you for your support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Quinn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Lisa Quinn
Executive Director



Business
Community
Lifestyle

401 Parkplace, Suite 102
Kirkland, WA 98033
www.kirklandchamber.org

Phone 425-822-7066
Fax 425-827-4878
info@kirklandchamber.org

February 12, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend the endorsement of the Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce for the non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE, emergency preparedness training and equipment as well as the extension of NE 120th Street.

The Chamber has been part of the community since 1936 and we represent approximately 3500 businesses that choose to operate their businesses in Kirkland because of the pool of excellent employees, the support of the local government and community vision for an improved future. In order to make these plans come true, we need to upgrade the city's infrastructure and help define an enhanced economic strategy for the city.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our community. The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, and with the state and federal government. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

The City of Kirkland has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Vadino".

Bill Vadino
Executive Director
Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I am an active member of the Kirkland community, serving on the Active Living Task Force and I am the Houghton neighborhood representative at KAN (Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods). I have also served as chair of the Central Houghton Neighborhood Association for the last 4 years and served as Secretary for several years prior to that. It is as a neighborhood leader that I am now asking you for support of this project.

116th Ave NE Non-Motorized Project – \$2 million

This capital request helps fund completion of bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian facilities south along 116th Ave NE between the Houghton Park & Ride and similar facilities that start at Bellevue's northern city limits and continue to SR-520. As an avid cyclist myself and a member of the Active Living Task Force, I feel this is one of the most important uncompleted bike route projects in our City. This particular portion of 116th Ave NE serves as one of the few north/south transportation corridors connecting Kirkland and Bellevue. This bike route also has regional impact as well. If completed it will connect the Houghton Park and Ride at the northern end with the 520 bike trail near its southern terminus in Bellevue.

This project also serves pedestrian needs as well. At the northern end of the proposed route is the 60th Street Pedestrian overcrossing of I405. So not only does this provide north/south connectivity for pedestrians in our City, but it also completes one of our few east/west pedestrian connections across the great barrier of I405. The City of Kirkland has always been committed to providing the best active transportation system. We were among the first cities to adopt a non-motorized transportation plan in 1996. The current Active Transportation Plan being worked on this year pushes that goal even further, to recognize biking and walking as real modes of travel and to encourage *increased* participation. Last year our Transportation Department conducted a survey to ask users how they view the City's Active Transportation system. The survey found that pedestrians choose to walk to a specific destination or, if they are walking for fitness/recreation, they prefer routes that provide a view or natural surroundings. 116th Avenue is on the western border of one of our state's most beautiful urban forests, Bridle Trails State Park. This route will be a vital link to encourage walking and increased activity in the most gorgeous natural settings our City has (and we are quite proud to have many!). Sidewalks along 116th will only serve to increase pedestrian access to one of our most valued parks, access that it currently does not have.

Bridle Trails State Park is a 480-acre facility that provides equestrian recreational facilities on a regional and local level and is a one-of-a-kind facility within the project

limits. This project provides *unique in the state* opportunities to provide world class equestrian trails and access to a beautiful park. I encourage you to visit the Park's website to see the dedication and commitment that our neighbors have toward this natural jewel. <http://www.bridletrails.org/>

Emergency Services Training - \$675,000

This request helps fund essential training for first responders including tactical training in responding to critical emergency situations, particularly those that may take place in highly populated gathering places. This highly specialized training includes team instruction in disaster recovery after a major structural collapse and countering an active school shooter or terrorist attack, crowd control, and dignitary protection. I have personally taken the CERT class and know that many of my neighbors have as well. I have seen it in action during the storm and power outages we had in 2007. I saw CERT people out, checking on neighbors, directing them to warming stations, making sure they were correctly using generators, inviting them to "soup parties", and most importantly, checking on those individuals who may not be able to get out to seek help if needed. I felt safe in my neighborhood and I knew that I would have help if I ever needed it. The funds being requested are tiny compared to the large return of safety and community connectedness.

I thank you for your consideration of this very worthy project. It sincerely combines the best of sustainability, active transportation, and neighborhood pride and connection. I hope Kirkland can count on you to help us continue to be a leader in active transportation and community preparedness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa McConnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa McConnell
5905 106th Ave. N.E.
Kirkland WA 98033



February 10, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

Cascade Bicycle Club, a non-profit organization based in Seattle, Washington serving nearly 10,000 members and the Puget Sound bicycling community, is writing to express support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. In particular, non-motorized transportation improvements on 116th Ave NE are critical to increase safe, efficient access to cyclists along this important transportation corridor. With the growing recognition of cycling as a viable transportation alternative, coupled with this region's every-increasing support for cycling as a healthful, low-resource-impact form of exercise, it is critical to not let lapse the maintenance and extension of our regional cycling infrastructure.

The good news is that bicycling investments are cheap to implement and yield significant side benefits. While bicycles alone cannot solve the problem of climate disruption, cities around the world are demonstrating that investments in bicycle infrastructure and education can help keep local dollars in the community while improving safety and cutting emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), the leading greenhouse gas.

Cascade Bicycle Club works with the City of Kirkland and other Puget Sound area governments, allied organizations, neighborhoods and the network of members to identify and support bicycling for transportation, health, and recreation. This collaboration has resulted in new bike lanes, increased access for cyclists throughout the Puget Sound Region, new project funding, and legal defense for local treasures like the Burke-Gilman trail.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our community. The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, and with the state and federal government. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Ayers", written over a horizontal line.

Chuck Ayers
Executive Director
Cascade Bicycle Club

p: 206.522.3222

PO Box 15165

f: 206.522.2407

Seattle Washington 98115

e: info@cascadebicycleclub.org

www.cascade.org





Steven E. Brown, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

February 12, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your collective support. We'd like to lend our specific endorsement for non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE, emergency preparedness training and equipment, and the extension of NE 120th Street because these projects are all essential to the continued vitality of the Kirkland area. The expansion of NE 120th Street provides an important link in the overall transportation network that serves the entire Totem Lake area which includes our hospital and surrounding community. Funding for the emergency preparedness training and equipment is clearly critical to our community's safety, and lastly, improvements to 116th Street will ensure that pedestrians and bicyclists are provided a safe environment when utilizing that surface street.

Our organization has been part of the Kirkland community for more than 35 years. We employ over 3,300 people and operate our business in Kirkland because of the pool of excellent employees, the support of the local government and collective community vision for an improved and growing future. In order to make these plans come to fruition, we need to upgrade the city's infrastructure and help define an enhanced economic strategy for the city.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and a variety of quality of life improvements to benefit our community. The City likewise has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, as well as with the state and federal government.

The City of Kirkland certainly has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain the federal funding necessary that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Kirkland's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven E. Brown, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer





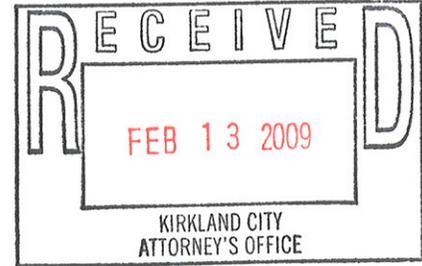
Office of the President

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-4704

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0001

The Honorable Jay Inslee
United States House of Representatives, 1st District
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4701



Dear Senators Murray and Cantwell and Congressman Inslee:

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the federal appropriations requests that are being pursued by the City of Kirkland. Each of these requests contributes significantly to the safety, security, and economic vitality of the Kirkland community. The projects include:

116th Ave NE Non-Motorized Project – \$2 million

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Improvements north and south of the proposed section of 116th Ave NE are now completed and the remaining portion of the corridor has no sidewalks, minimal shoulders – bicycles and pedestrians must use existing travel lane or shoulders and roadway direct/untreated discharge of stormwater enters the adjacent Yarrow Creek. The proposed improvements include new storm water facilities/stream enhancements, bike lanes and a separated multi-purpose gravel pedestrian/equestrian facility along the east side similar to the Bellevue section.

NE 120th Street extension – \$1.5 million

This capital request helps fund the completion of a key “missing link” in the transportation network of the Totem Lake area of Kirkland. This project is a vital component of the City's overall economic development strategy by providing essential infrastructure to serve the Totem Lake urban center. The Totem Lake area is the economic engine of Kirkland, with retail sales from the area generating one-third of the City's overall sales tax revenue. Totem Lake is also an important center for high-wage jobs associated with the existing university, high-tech, and bio-tech/medical institutions and research companies in the area

Emergency Services Equipment – \$500,000

This request includes funding for critical emergency response equipment, including emergency back-up generators at the City's community centers and urban search and rescue equipment. This project enhances community safety by equipping Kirkland to respond natural disasters and other threats to public safety.

Emergency Services Training - \$675,000

This request helps fund essential training for first responders including tactical training in responding to critical emergency situations, particularly those that may take place in highly populated gathering places. This highly specialized training includes team instruction in disaster recovery after a major structural collapse and countering an active school shooter or terrorist attack, crowd control, and dignitary protection. This training is important for Kirkland community safety, particularly in light of the number of active corporate leaders that live on the eastside and host gatherings of high profile dignitaries in our community.

I would like to thank you for considering these requests and appreciate any support you may be able to provide to secure funds to assist with the completion of these projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon M. McGavick". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Dr. Sharon M. McGavick
President
Lake Washington Technical College

Community Based Public Health

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1300
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-296-4603 Fax 206-296-0629
TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov/health

Public Health 
Seattle & King County

February 23, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and to aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my endorsement for non-motorized improvements within the community.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our community. Public Health Seattle-King County has partnered throughout the years with Kirkland on many innovative programs to promote healthy livable communities. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the healthiest places to live and work in Washington State.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding request.

Sincerely,

Elaine Cummins
Education Consultant

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for bike access improvements on 116th Avenue NE. As a full time bike commuter, this issue is very important to me. My family (my wife, two kids) and I decided two years ago to give up our second car because I had committed to using my bike for my commuting needs. Since that time I have understood more and more what that commitment has meant. Often streets that I had driven by without a thought are downright hazardous on a bike.

116th Ave NE is a well-used north-south arterial connecting the City of Kirkland with the City of Bellevue and access beyond. Part of the avenue has been upgraded for use by bicyclists and pedestrians, which is great, but can give a sense of false security. Because in the middle of a long stretch without side roads, other alternatives, or warning the bike lane and sidewalk ends and the arterial becomes a narrow road with no shoulders and steep ditches on either side. As a bike commuter, I don't have many options regarding routes and timing of my ride so that negotiating this stretch of road is particularly hazardous during the dark winter months when my commute is in the dark both directions.

I believe that infrastructure upgrades, such as 116th Ave NE are crucial to allow for the use of non-motorized means of transportation, which in turn is crucial for our society to come to terms with pollution, global warming, national security concerns brought on by profligate use of foreign oil, livable community, etc.

The City of Kirkland has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

Dean Wilson
504 19th Place
Kirkland, WA 98033
425-828-3745

Karen Story
Chair, Highlands Neighborhood Association
9017 Slater Ave NE
Kirkland WA 98033

February 10, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for the non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE.

I've lived in Kirkland for over 20 years. I choose to make my home here because it is an economically viable, beautiful, and liveable city. For these reasons it is also growing, and there are simply not enough resources for safe walking and bicycling. Safe bicycle and pedestrian pathways save lives by decreasing accidents and encouraging healthier lifestyles. They also get more people out of cars and into alternate forms of transportation. This section of 116th Ave NE has no shoulder at all, and is extremely dangerous for bikes and pedestrians. It's a major transportation corridor that is underutilized for these reasons.

In my neighborhood, citizens have consistently voted to use scarce city funds for pedestrian walkway improvements. They are clearly a very high priority for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen".

Be Active!

Washington Coalition for **Promoting Physical Activity**

Jane A. Moore, M.D., Executive Director

2102 N Vassault St

253-307-9873

www.beactive.org

Tacoma, WA 98406-2521

Jane_WCPPA@comcast.net



February 1, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate

The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address THE community's infrastructure needs and aid THE local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE because it would increase opportunities for safe, active transportation for the residents of Kirkland.

The Washington Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity was established in 1997. We are a group of more than 100 local coalitions, organizations, and individuals from across the state. We promote regular physical activity to enhance the overall health and quality of life for Washington State residents.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit the community. The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, and with the state and federal government. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

The City of Kirkland has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

Jane A. Moore, M.D.

Executive Director, WCPPA

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE because it would provide a safer route option to local cyclists.

Our business, Kirkland Bicycle has been part of the Kirkland community for more than 15 years. We employ 10 people and choose to operate our business in Kirkland because of the pool of excellent employees, the support of the local government and community vision for an improved cycling future. In order to make these plans come true, we need to upgrade the city's infrastructure and help define an enhanced economic strategy for the city.

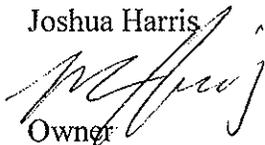
Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our community. The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, and with the state and federal government. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

The City of Kirkland has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

Joshua Harris



Owner
Kirkland Bicycle

Nathaniel Swenson



Manager
Kirkland Bicycle

Margaret Carnegie
11259 126th Ave. N.E.
Kirkland, WA 98033

February 7, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress,

I wish to express my support for the city of Kirkland's funding requests that would aid our city's infrastructure needs and help our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in various areas that all are worthy of your support. The following I believe to be of especially significant importance:

Non-motorized improvements on 116th Ave. N. E.
Emergency Preparedness training and equipment
Extension of N.E. 120th St.

As a member of this community since 1967, I have seen many changes, including much growth. Kirkland has invested in ways to improve the environmental conditions, along with economic conditions. In order to support the continuing growth and wellbeing of this community, federal funding can help the city continue wise growth.

I wish to support the City of Kirkland in its vision and strategies that promote public transit, and improve public safety and the local economy.

Thank you for considering the City of Kirkland's funding requests and I hope you will see them as worthy of your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Carnegie". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Margaret Carnegie



February 1, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to fix a dangerous road in Kirkland that I and many others use frequently at our peril.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for a bike lane on 116th Avenue NE.

I am the owner of Evryday Athlete, an athletic store in Kirkland, I am a member of the city's Active Living Task Force, I live in Kirkland, I commute to work on a bicycle, and I exercise outside on the streets of Kirkland everyday. Like many people who live in Kirkland, non-motorized transportation is very important to me as I try to lessen my impact on the planet. The bike lane on 116th would remove a huge barrier to potential riders because that road is both a key North-South corridor and one of the only East-West connectors that isn't straight up one of Puget Sound's many steep hills.

Several times a week I ride on 116th between Bellevue and Kirkland and I know it is used by many other riders as both a commuting route and recreational by-way. In fact, it is part of Kirkland's annual "Seven Hills" cycling event with nearly 1,000 participants. (I cringe to think of all those yellow jackets speeding down the hill with no bike lane or shoulder to ward off frustrated drivers). To make matters worse, there is a garbage and recycling transfer station at the top of the hill and the road in question is frequently used by big trucks and other heavy loads. Any remediation would be better than the dirt shoulder that exists today.

I opened my store in Kirkland and chose to live here because after one trip through town you can tell that this place is serious about sustainable growth. Neighborhoods have sidewalks, bike lanes connect (some of) those neighborhoods and businesses are always a short walk away from every home. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

Sincerely, Wade Praeger

11829 98th Avenue NE Kirkland, WA 98034
425.821.4301 www.everydayathlete.us



Bridle Trails Park Foundation

6619 - 132nd Ave. N.E., #265
Kirkland, WA 98033
web site: www.bridletrails.org

Phone / Fax: 425-883-8501
Email: BTPARKFOUNDATION@aol.com

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Sr. V.P., Regan McKenzie
CHRIS ROMNEY

February 12, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing on behalf of the Bridle Trails Park Foundation to express our support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. We would like to lend our specific endorsement for **non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE** because it would greatly improve safety of the access routes used by several thousand patrons of Bridle Trails State Park each month.

The Foundation was organized to work cooperatively with the State of Washington to provide operating funding for Bridle Trails State Park and promote its use and enjoyment by the surrounding community. The Foundation has several thousand constituents who contribute each year to its funding and attend its many sponsored events. In order to provide for the safe access and enjoyment of the park by all members of the community, including pedestrians and equestrians, we feel it is critical to upgrade the city's infrastructure to provide improved safe routes of access along 116th Ave NE as well as optimizing the flow of vehicular traffic.

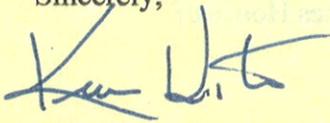
Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our community.

The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, and with the state and federal government. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

The City of Kirkland has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,



Ken Hite
President
Bridle Trails Park Foundation

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate

The Honorable Jay Inslee
United States House of Representatives

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dennis J. McLerran

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Dear Senators Murray and Cantwell and Congressman Inslee:

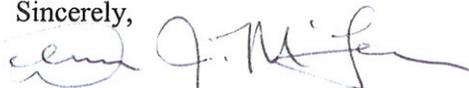
I am writing to express support for the City of Kirkland's federal appropriations request for 116th non-motorized improvements. This project will provide infrastructure to encourage reduction in vehicle miles traveled, which will help the city and region reach greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Kirkland recognizes the importance of non-motorized transportation as a commuting option as well as a part of active living -- both contribute to the vitality of our region. The 116th non-motorized improvement project is a critical missing link in Kirkland's transportation network. The proposed project includes bike lanes and a separated multi-purpose gravel pedestrian/equestrian pathway; completing a regionally significant north/south corridor linking the City of Kirkland bike route along NE 70th Street from Redmond, the pedestrian/bike bridge across I-405 at NE 60th Street, and the City of Bellevue's existing non-motorized improvements south to SR 520.

Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our region. The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, state government and regional agencies such as ours. The City of Kirkland has the support of its community and regional partners as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting alternative commuting options. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested locally to build a regional network.

Thank you for considering this request. I appreciate any support you may be able to provide to secure funds to assist with the completion of this project.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. McLerran
Executive Director

Nicholas Barile
uBRDO Cycle and Mountain Supply
February 17, 2009

The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for **(non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE/ emergency preparedness training and equipment / extension of NE 120th Street)** because it would create a better and safer way for cyclists to commute from Kirkland to Bellevue.

Our business is new in Kirkland but we have been in the outdoor industry for decades. We are big supporters of alternative transportation by the ways and means of the bicycle. We are continuously concerned with the safety of our customers and community members and encourage only the safest of bicycle related transportation practices. Our customers, neighbors, and ourselves would benefit from this project indefinitely, as well as the rest of the general public of Kirkland. We love it here and we are constantly looking for ways to improve our community and its efficiency. We believe this is a necessary and viable step.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the City's important federal funding requests.

Sincerely,

Nick Barile
uBRDO Cycle and Mountain Supply
Kirkland, WA



811 1st Ave. Suite 626 ♦ Seattle, WA 98104 ♦ (206) 329-2336 ♦ Fax (206) 329-2705
www.transportationchoices.org
info@transportationchoices.org

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February 28, 2009

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The Honorable Patty Murray, United States Senate
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, United States Senate
The Honorable Jay Inslee, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim McDermott, United States House of Representatives

Dear Members of Congress:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Kirkland's funding requests to address our community's infrastructure needs and aid our local economy.

Dave Asher

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Steve Crane

Dan Evans

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Jeanne Kohl-Welles

Kyle Loring

Lauren Luttrell

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The City of Kirkland is requesting assistance in a number of areas that all deserve your support. I'd like to lend my specific endorsement for non-motorized improvements on 116th Avenue NE/ emergency preparedness training and equipment / extension of NE 120th Street because it would provide Kirkland residents access to additional transportation options.

STAFF

Rob Johnson

Executive Director

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Policy Associate

Bill LaBorde

State Policy Director

Shefali Ranganathan

*Director of Education
and Outreach*

Transportation Choices Coalition seeks to bring Washingtonians more and better transportation choices -- real opportunities to take a bus, travel by train, ride a bike, or walk. The City of Kirkland is an incredible leader in the effort to create walkable, bikable, busable, compact communities. Kirkland is building a national reputation for smart and sustainable growth and has invested heavily in transit opportunities and quality of life improvements to benefit our community. The City has done so by building successful partnerships with the local community, and with the state and federal government. With your help, the City of Kirkland will be able to obtain federal funding that can be invested in the community to continue to make Kirkland one of the best places to live and work in Washington State.

The City of Kirkland has the support of its community as it continues to invest in a vision and strategy that supports our local economy, improves public safety and improves traffic congestion by promoting transit options. With rising gas prices, rising unemployment, and people looking for ways to save money, now is the time to make investments that provide more mobility options, reduce congestion, and diminish our carbon footprint. Thank you for taking time to consider this important issue, and all the work that you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "ROB".

Rob Johnson
Executive Director

