

G 4-28

Eric E. Parsons
Commission Chair

April 12, 2006

Douglas C. Blomgren
Commissioner

Mr. Jason Tell, Region 1 Manager
Oregon Department of Transportation
123 NW Flanders St.
Portland, OR 97209

Bertha Ferrán
Commissioner

RE: FY 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Comments

Sal Kadri
Commissioner

Dear Jason:

Mark Rosenbaum
Commissioner

I recommend Phase II of Interstate 5 widening at Delta Park, which is currently on the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Region 1, 150% Project list for the Fiscal Year 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, be moved onto the 100% list and be funded.

Tom Potter
Mayor

As you know, if Alternative 2 is selected as the preferred alternative for Phase 1 of the project, the Phase II funding would cover right-of-way acquisition and preliminary engineering for the new Argyle ramp in the Kenton neighborhood.

Bruce A. Warner
Executive Director

Kenton is part of PDC's Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area (ICURA). This area has been the focus of one of the ICURA's key revitalization projects, called the Downtown Kenton Redevelopment Project. In conducting development feasibility studies for this project, we have concluded implementing Alternative 2 is valuable to the development in and around the historic Kenton downtown. Alternative 2 provides a mechanism to move major traffic off the current Argyle Way and helps turn it into an attractive local street.

For this to happen, Phase II improvements would have to be funded and have a firm implementation date identified. Perhaps the most harmful scenario to the struggling downtown Kenton area would be if Alternative 2 were chosen without a corresponding commitment for Phase II. This scenario could halt future development of Denver, Argyle, and the adjacent Interstate MAX station area, as property owners, businesses, and developers will be skeptical, waiting to see what happens before committing to new private investment.

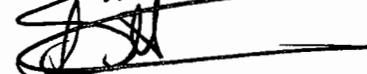
For these reasons, PDC recommends Phase II improvements be moved to the 100% list and subsequent funding is made available for its implementation.

www.pdc.us

Thank you for your time and interest.

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Sincerely,



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Executive Director

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