



# Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway

PO Box 50, Bridal Veil, Oregon 97010

<http://www.hcrh.org>

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

*Re: TIGER grant application for Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail*

Dear Secretary Foxx:

2016 represents the centennial celebration for America's greatest highway, the Historic Columbia River Highway. TIGER funding during 2016 will be a fitting commemoration for this historic landmark. TIGER funding will propel this project of statewide significance into the future.

The Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway whole-heartedly support the Oregon Department of Transportation's effort to seek TIGER Discretionary funding to construct the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail between Viento State Park and Perham Creek in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. This TIGER -funding, leveraged with other funding already committed this project, will provide Oregonians and visitors new opportunities to experience the beauty of the Gorge. This project presents the opportunity to make a significant contribution to a legacy project that will be enjoyed well beyond our lifetimes.

The Milepost 2016 Reconnection Strategy reminds us of Samuel Hill's vision for the Columbia River Highway. Hill was inclined to view scenery as a marketable asset, which could and should be developed through a system of good roads. He sold the idea to the Oregon Legislature 100 years ago by stating "we will cash in year after year, on our crop of scenic beauty, without depleting it in anyway."

Help us keep up the momentum building to complete the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail. Twelve miles of the Historic Highway State Trail are now complete, and the next five miles of trail are 100% funded. Construction has started on the Starvation Creek to Lindsey Creek.

Later this year construction will begin on the next section, Lindsey Creek to Wyeth. In 2013 we had a wonderful celebration for the opening of the John B. Yeon to Moffett Creek trail segment. The completion of this trail segment allows cyclists and pedestrians to access the Gorge between Troutdale and Cascade Locks without being forced to the shoulder of Interstate 84.

This project brings Oregonians one step closer to realizing Sam Hill's vision, and we can easily imagine the significant economic opportunities a complete connection through the Gorge would provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanette B. Kloos".

Jeanette B. Kloos  
President