



May 20, 2011

Douglas G. Richardson  
Mayor

Mr. Victor M. Mendez, Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Don Anderson  
Deputy Mayor

Claudia B. Thomas  
Council Member

Reference: JBLM / I-5 Congestion Relief Action Plan

Walter Neary  
Council Member

Dear Mr. Mendez,

Michael D. Brandstetter  
Council Member

The City of Lakewood supports the JBLM / I-5 Congestion Relief Action Plan submitted by Thurston Regional Planning Council for consideration of a Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) grant. The Action Plan will provide near-term relief from the crippling congestion I-5 experiences every morning and evening in the vicinity of Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). This is an important interim measure while longer-term strategies are put into place.

Mary Moss  
Council Member

Jason Whalen  
Council Member

Lakewood is leading the effort for those longer-term strategies, strategies that include retrofit and expansion of highway infrastructure and interchanges. We cannot wait until that work is complete to implement congestion-relief measures. Relief is needed now!

Andrew E. Neiditz  
City Manager

The South Sound Military and Communities Partnership, a leadership group that emerged from our successful JBLM growth coordination planning process in 2010, will serve in a leadership capacity for the Congestion Relief Action Plan. These community leaders from Pierce and Thurston County jurisdictions, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and business and service organizations will help ensure that efforts off-base are coordinated with efforts and activities underway on-base. This will maximize the benefits generated by this project and fully leverage investments and implementation strategies.

Heidi Ann Wachter  
City Attorney

Alice M. Bush, MMC  
City Clerk

I encourage your support of this project with a TCSP grant, and look forward to working on this effort with our partners.

Sincerely,

Andrew E. Neiditz  
City Manager