



YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS

311 North 4th Street, Suite 204 • Yakima, Washington 98901

509-574-1550 • FAX 574-1551

website: www.yvcog.org

April 12, 2021

Congressman Dan Newhouse
504 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Yakima County – “Community Project Funding” Program (East-West Corridor Project)

Dear Congressman Newhouse:

Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) strongly supports Yakima County’s **East-West Corridor Project** *Community Project Funding Program* submission for consideration as a funding candidate within the Transportation, Housing, & Urban Development Community Project Funding Request appropriation process.

The East-West Corridor Project is a 6-phase, Yakima/City of Yakima/Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) effort that will create a new urban arterial crossing Interstate 82 and the Yakima River connecting the City of Yakima to the urbanized unincorporated county area of Terrace Heights. This project alleviates congestion through Yakima’s Central Business district (providing positive air quality benefits) and State Route 12 (reducing peak hour traffic volumes).

YVCOG is the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the state-designated Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for the Yakima Valley region. One of YVCOG’s primary duties is to develop a long-range transportation plan for the Yakima Valley region.

Yakima County’s proposal is consistent with and implements the goals and policies of the *Yakima Valley Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan 2020-2045 (M/RTP)*. The project aligns well with the M/RTP priorities of Safety, Preservation, Economic Vitality, Freight Mobility, Transit Enhancement, and Transportation Demand Management.

YVCOG welcomes the opportunity for promoting and assisting with stakeholder outreach activities related to this project. The **East-West Corridor Project** embodies our region’s developing sustainable and livable community principals.

Thank you for the opportunity to express support for this important Yakima County project. We sincerely hope Yakima County’s **East-West Corridor Project** *Community Project Funding Program* submission is successfully funded through the BUILD Grant program.

Sincerely



Christina Wickenhagen
Executive Director

Cc: Senator Maria Cantwell
Senator Patty Murray

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**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

South Central Region
2809 Rudkin Road
Union Gap, WA 98903-1648
509-577-1600 / FAX: 509-577-1603
TTY: 1-800-833-6388
www.wsdot.wa.gov

July 17, 2019

Yakima County Roads
Yakima County Courthouse 4th Floor
128 N 2nd Street
Yakima, WA 98901

Attn: Matt Pietrusiewicz, P.E.

Re: Yakima County East-West Corridor TIB Application

Dear Mr. Pietrusiewicz,

This letter is to confirm that Yakima County has been working cooperatively with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) on planning the proposed East-West Corridor.

WSDOT recognizes this as a regionally significant project and we fully support your efforts to improve transportation. As such, WSDOT has a funded Connecting Washington project to make connections from this corridor to Interstate 82. We look forward to continued coordination between our two projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Todd V. Trepanier".

Todd V. Trepanier, P.E.
Region Administrator

TT:pjg