

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

October 19, 2017

The Honorable K. Jane Williams  
Acting Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Acting Administrator Williams:

We write in support of the *Capital Investment Grant Program (Small Starts)* application submitted by Spokane Transit Authority for the Spokane Central City Line project.

Spokane Transit Authority is working to establish a 5.8 mile bus rapid transit route to provide fast, reliable transit service between Browne's Addition and Spokane Community College, with connections to downtown Spokane, the University District, and Gonzaga University. The Spokane Central City Line would provide frequent service, with longer hours and weekend service. It would feature permanent stations with better amenities, streetscape and road improvements, and battery-electric, zero-emission vehicles.

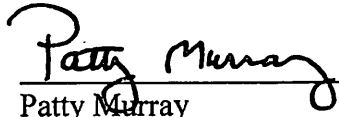
The Spokane Central City Line would link important employment and education centers with surrounding neighborhoods. The corridor encompasses 17 percent of the regional employment, six institutions of higher education with 27,000 students, thousands of residents, and major recreational and cultural attractions. Spokane is expected to grow by nearly 165,000 residents and 68,000 new jobs by 2040. The Spokane Central City Line would enhance Spokane Transit Authority's ability to support this significant growth and provide efficient public transportation for residents and businesses. In addition, the project is estimated to generate more than \$175 million in economic impact through surrounding land improvements.

The Spokane Central City Line is expected to cost approximately \$72 million, with additional funding provided through STA Proposition 1, a local transportation levy, and Connecting Washington, a state transportation revenue package. Establishing the Spokane Central City Line would improve transit travel times, reliability, and accessibility for commuters and residents in Spokane and the surrounding area.

We respectfully request that you give full and fair consideration to Spokane Transit Authority's application.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



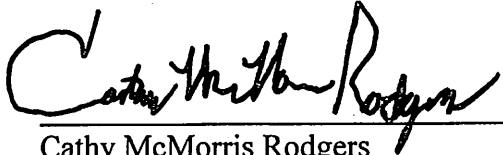
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Patty Murray  
United States Senator



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Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



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Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress