

MARIA CANTWELL  
WASHINGTON



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

November 10, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C., 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority's application to the 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program. Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) is seeking \$69,830,000 for the design and construction of two new bus rapid transit (BRTs) stations in Tukwila and South Renton.

Tukwila and South Renton are two cities south of Seattle which are part of the larger Seattle Metropolitan area. The two cities' public transportation needs are primarily served by Sound Transit. This public transportation network connects Tukwila and South Renton to other parts of King County, the state's largest county, such as Seattle. These communities are considered areas of persistent poverty and historically disadvantaged. Sound Transit will use this funding to create two new BRT stations that better connect Tukwila and South Renton with the rest of the area.

The Tukwila International Boulevard Station include two in-line BRT platforms, new pedestrian bridges spanning SR518 and connecting the BRT station to the existing Link light rail station in the north and the neighborhood in the south, and other elements such as stormwater management for water quality and fish passage improvements. The South Renton BRT station will include a new transit center with two elevators and sidewalk connections, platform amenities such as canopies and wind screens, stormwater conveyance, green space under power lines, and double stack bike lockers. These stations will connect these historically disadvantaged communities to the larger region and allow for better access to healthcare, education, and other community services.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority's application to the 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maria Cantwell". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator