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RICK LARSEN  
2ND DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4702

RANKING MEMBER  
COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

October 2, 2024

The Honorable Amit Bose  
Administrator  
Federal Railroad Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 25090

Dear Administrator Bose:

We request your full and fair consideration of the City of Everett's application for a Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) grant. The city seeks \$14 million for its Smith Island Safety: Grade Crossings Elimination and Highway Connections Project.

The project would construct an overpass and improve an adjacent intersection to eliminate two at-grade railroad crossings that pose significant risks to public safety. This project would eliminate the threat of vehicle and train collisions at railroad crossings and allow first responders to pass through roads that are currently blocked for more than two hours each day. Finally, the project would reduce additional hazards caused by traffic backups along highway ramps onto the adjacent State Route 529 (SR 529).

This project would also reduce accidents, congestion and pollution by installing a roundabout and a merging lane on a busy thoroughfare. SR 529 is a major freight and commuter link between the cities of Everett and Marysville, with more than 1,500 trucks and 25 freight and commuter trains crossing daily. By eliminating the at-grade crossings and reducing the amount of time trucks and other vehicles sit idle, the project would improve safety and significantly reduce carbon emissions and noise pollution.

For these reasons, we ask that you give full and fair consideration to the City of Everett's RCE application. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen  
U.S. Representative  
Washington State, 2nd District



Suzan DelBene  
U.S. Representative  
Washington State, 1<sup>st</sup> District



Patty Murray  
U.S. Senator  
Washington State



Maria Cantwell  
U.S. Senator  
Washington State