

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 3, 2011

Patrick O'Brien - Director
Office of Economic Adjustment
400 Army Navy Drive, Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22202-4704

Re: Federal Funding Opportunity for Transportation Infrastructure Improvements Associated with Medical Facilities Related to Recommendations of the 2005 BRAC Commission

Dear Director O'Brien,

We are writing to express our support for the Transportation Infrastructure Improvements Associated with Medical Facilities Related to Recommendations of the 2005 BRAC Commission application. This application is being submitted by the City of Lakewood and the South Sound Military & Communities Partnership for improvements adjacent to Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), Washington.

If awarded, this funding would assist in improving pedestrian facilities for improved safety, upgrade and coordinate traffic signals, and add additional lanes to address the increased traffic around Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC) on JBLM. When this project is completed, vehicles entering and leaving at the Madigan Gate will save a total of 662 hours in delay on a typical weekday, and individual delays will improve from an excess of 10 minutes to 35 seconds.

The Interstate 5 corridor plays a vital economic role due to both the freight movement and in national defense serving as the primary access to and from JBLM and Camp Murray, the state's Emergency Operations Center. The project is critical to serving transportation mobility affecting commerce in the State of Washington, as well as measurably improving the provision of care for the 1.4 million patients visiting MAMC annually.

We are confident that this project will have a significant impact on the local community as well as the economic health of the Puget Sound area. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the application by the City of Lakewood and the South Sound Military & Communities Partnership.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Norm Dicks
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress