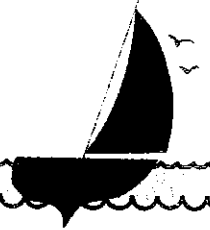




City of Des Moines

ADMINISTRATION
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DES MOINES, WASHINGTON 98198-6398
(206) 873-4595 T.D.D.: (206) 824-6024 FAX: (206) 870-6540



February 17, 2010

Ms. Paula Hammond, PE
Secretary of Transportation
PO Box 47300
Olympia, WA 98504-7300

Re: Surplus Old SR-509 Right-of-Way

Dear Secretary Hammond:

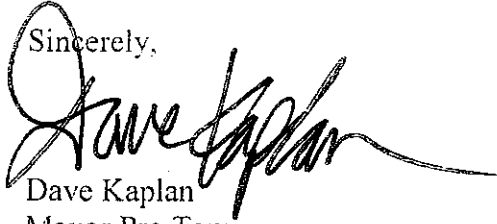
Thank you for your letter addressing our request for the transfer of the old SR 509 right-of-way for transportation and trail usage. We acknowledge that the City needs to demonstrate how development of the Barnes Creek Trail will benefit motorists and increase roadway safety. The City has approved an agreement with KPG Engineers to define the footprint of the trail, and gather the supporting documentation for motorist safety per your request.

The City has been in contact with WSDOT staff and held a conference call in December 2009 to help determine the requirements for right-of-way transfer and how we can effectively meet them. WSDOT staff recommended that two applications be submitted -- one for the regional trail elements and another that focuses directly on roadway related improvements.

We anticipate that the two applications will be submitted to WSDOT by June 2010. We are requesting that no action be taken to surplus any of the old SR509 right-of-way until we have determined the footprint needed for right-of-way. We are hopeful that a transfer may be arranged, but if that is not possible we may be interested in purchasing a portion of the right-of-way. The extension of 16th Avenue South is a benefit to motorists as it is a major north-south connector in the City. We feel that development of the Barnes Creek Trail with this connector and an extension to the south is a benefit regionally, as well as locally, as it will eventually become part of the Interurban Trail, and one day provide a connection to Highline Community College.

The City plans to hold a public meeting early in spring 2010, and we would like to invite WSDOT staff to participate. Please contact me or Dan Brewer, the City's Assistant Public Works Director, at (206) 870-6581 if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Kaplan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dave Kaplan
Mayor Pro Tem

c: Senator Karen Keiser
Representative Dave Upthegrove
Representative Tina Orwall
Senator Tracey Eide
Representative Mark Miloscia
Representative Skip Priest
Des Moines City Council Members
Tony Piasecki, City Manager
Grant Fredricks, Planning, Building & Public Works Director
Dan Brewer, Assistant Public Works Director
Cindy Tremblay, WSDOT, Property Management Section Manager
Randy Johnson, WSDOT, ROW Disposal