



City of Tacoma
City Manager

April 16, 2018

Mr. Craig Stone
Puget Sound Gateway Program Administrator
Washington State Department of Transportation
310 Maple Park SE
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Mr. Stone:

The City of Tacoma expresses its strong support for the Port of Tacoma Spur, Stage 1 of SR 167 Corridor Completion. We encourage Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) regional funding for the project as requested by the Washington State Department of Transportation and Port of Tacoma. The Port of Tacoma Spur finally provides regional highway access necessary to support our globally vital seaport.

The Port of Tacoma is a critical economic driver for South Puget Sound and the City of Tacoma. More than 29,000 jobs are generated by Port activity, which in turn generates \$195 million in state and local taxes. Improved highway access to the seaport relieves truck traffic congestion on local streets and Interstate 5. In addition, the Port of Tacoma Spur connects directly to SR 509, improving access to the Downtown Tacoma, a Regional Growth Center.

The City of Tacoma commits match funding of \$1.5 million from the City street fund to the Port of Tacoma Spur in recognition of the regional and local benefits of the project. We understand that local agency match, Port funding and the requested PSRC grant offset a portion of the \$130 million local contribution mandated by the Legislature.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Pauli
City Manager

cc: Tadd Wille, Assistant City Manager
Kurtis Kingsolver, Public Works Director
Chris Larson, Engineering Division Manager