

April 5, 2021

The Honorable Rick Larsen
U.S. House of Representatives
2163 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Larsen,

I am writing in support of the application for funding for a pedestrian bridge in north Everett. This is a much-needed project which will provide enhanced safety for pedestrians and improved accessibility to the entire college district for disabled people and help alleviate interruption of traffic flow on this busy thoroughfare.

The project meets both the House Transportation and Infrastructure committee and the Community Project Funding eligibility requirements. Currently students, staff, and community members must cross a five-lane highway that is a major alternative to Interstate 5 for drivers who are entering and leaving the city of Everett. The speed limit, number of vehicles, and number of pedestrians combine to make both traffic delays and pedestrian safety at issue.

Residents on the east side of the highway will be provided better access to the Everett Transit center that exists one block from the proposed bridge to the west. Community Transit has indicated their interest in service at the location, most likely on the east side.

Students from Washington State University and Everett Community College will benefit from this project, along with students from WSU's Everett University Center, which houses programs offered by Western Washington University, Eastern Washington University, and University of Washington-Bothell.

This is a transportation project that will connect communities, enhance safety, and result in improved traffic flow. I support the project and encourage the federal government to provide the funding that will make this a reality.

Sincerely,



Paul Pitre, Chancellor
Washington State University Everett