



December 7, 2020

Dear Governor Inslee and Secretary Millar,

We are writing to request your support for the Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail Connection - an envisioned corridor between downtown Tacoma and downtown Puyallup for people walking and rolling that is physically separated from vehicular traffic and safe for people of all ages and abilities.

Currently, there is no safe route between downtown Tacoma and downtown Puyallup for people travelling on foot or by bike. The Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail Connection will provide safe access to jobs, schools, parks, transit, and housing in our regional centers and beyond. This project is a critical link in building a safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation network connecting Puyallup Tribal lands, Fife, Tacoma, and Puyallup.

In 2019, project partners undertook a Route Analysis Study to assess the feasibility of three potential routes to complete this crucial connection: Levee Road, River Road, and the new SR167 alignment. Each potential alignment was assessed for safety, connections, accessibility, equity, environment and community fit, and cost, along with fatal flaws. A bicycle and pedestrian trail along the new SR 167 alignment was the preferred option to make this project a reality. This effort was collaboratively funded by the Washington State Department of Transportation, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, City of Fife, City of Puyallup, City of Tacoma, Metro Parks Tacoma, Port of Tacoma, and Pierce County.

The next phase is Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Analysis (\$2.3 million). State funding for the PE phase would allow WSDOT and project partners to develop the 30% preliminary design for the project, further refine the route along the new SR 167 alignment and into Tacoma, complete environmental analysis, and solidify a cost estimate for construction.

**We respectfully request the inclusion of \$2.3 million in the 2021-2023 biennium budget to fund Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Analysis for the Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail Connection along the new SR167 alignment.**

Sincerely,

Mayor Victoria Woodards, City of Tacoma  
Mayor Kim Roscoe, City of Fife  
Mayor Julie Door, City of Puyallup  
Larry Leveen, ForeverGreen Trails

Executive Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County  
Chairman Bill Sterud, Puyallup Tribe of Indians  
Commissioner Erik Hanberg, Metro Parks Tacoma  
Kristina Walker, Downtown On the Go

CC: Senator Hobbs  
Representative Fey