

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

October 28, 2022

Nuria Fernandez
Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fernandez:

I write in support of an application submitted by the City of Seattle for the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) *All Stations Accessibility Program* for the Seattle Center Monorail Station Reconfiguration Project.

The City of Seattle is seeking FTA funding to reconfigure the Seattle Center Monorail station based on the results of a 2017-2018 feasibility study that found several limitations at the station that negatively affect the passenger accessibility, throughput, and capacity. Currently, the Seattle Center station platform is only accessible via a narrow bridge from the Seattle Center Armory, which, when closed, renders the platform inaccessible. Additionally, the station is not level with the train cars. In order for wheelchair or scooter users to access the Monorail, Monorail staff must place a portable ramp to bridge the gap, making equitable access significantly more difficult and time-consuming. This project would be focused on incorporating universal design principles and removing barriers to access for all transit riders.

The Seattle Center station has not been modernized since its construction in the 1960s. This project seeks modernize the platform and eliminate barriers for all users by leveling the station platform, installing automated platform edge doors, and making improvements to the ramp from Thomas Street to the platform. These modifications will bring it into full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Additionally, this project would improve wayfinding, including tactilely for those with vision impairment as well as the inclusion of additional language options and translations. Finally, this project would create an additional entrance that would connect to the north side of the Seattle Center campus to improve access to popular attractions like Memorial Stadium, the International Fountain, McCaw Hall and the Theatre District.

Thank you for your consideration of the City of Seattle's application. Please contact Bree Rabourn in my Seattle office at 206-553-0724 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator

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