

DOT Application for Competitive Portion of Federal Transit Administration Funds: SR 520 and Columbia River Crossing – November 9, 2011 Report

As required in ESHB 1175, Section 305 (5), please see the following report of the SR 520 Program and Columbia River Crossing project applying for the competitive portion of FTA funds for eligible transit-related costs.

The SR 520 Program continues to remain vigilant for opportunities to seek federal funding. On October 31, 2011, WSDOT, on behalf of the SR 520 Program, applied for a \$15 million federal TIGER III grant for the Montlake Triangle Project, a multimodal project with partners Sound Transit and the University of Washington to build transit, bicycle, and pedestrian improvements. When complete, the new Montlake Triangle will be a multimodal transit and pedestrian hub that connects Sound Transit Link light rail, SR 520 transit riders and University of Washington students, employees and visitors. WSDOT is requesting a \$15 million TIGER grant to complete its contribution to the \$43 million project. If successful, we expect the USDOT funds to flow through FTA to our partner Sound Transit.

In 2011, the Columbia River Crossing project team explored a bi-state TIGER III grant opportunity for funding a portion of the project. Multiple options were proposed and analyzed, including program enhancements, mitigation and alternative transportation facilities. At the current level of preliminary engineering design for the project, however, the CRC project did not meet the selection criteria. We are continually working with our FTA partners and the WSDOT Public Transportation Division to help identify future transit funding opportunities as they become available.