

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

October 20, 2017

Matthew Welbes
Executive Director
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Director Welbes,

I am pleased to write in support of the Washington State Department of Transportation Ferries Division's (WSF) 2017 FTA Passenger Ferry Grant Program application for the Terminal and Vessel Communication Infrastructure Modernization project.

The Terminal and Vessel Communication Infrastructure Modernization project will replace vessel telecommunications, implement high-speed internet connections to the terminals, and replace the servers and networks. A large portion of the terminal and vessel communications infrastructure is beyond its useful life and lacks redundancy to meet current operational needs. Most of the equipment is no longer supported or manufactured and wiring is overdue for replacement. Replacement of this equipment will ensure a reliable connection which is necessary to maintain the safety and security of the passengers aboard.

Providing modernized communication infrastructure at terminals and aboard ferries will improve service reliability, improve efficiency, and accommodate projected system growth. I am therefore pleased to offer this WSF project my support and ask for your full and fair consideration of their application.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

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