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314 1st Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98104
206.652.2310 ph
206.381.1631 fx
www.feetfirst.org

Sara Zora
Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)
City of Seattle
PO Box 34996
Seattle, WA 98124-4996

August 2, 2012

Dear Ms. Zora:

For over ten years Feet First has been working to ensure there are walkable communities across Washington.

The **Melrose Promenade** project supports our vision of how people are provided easy and safe ways to walk for their health, transportation, environment, community and pleasure. The project would transform Capitol Hill's Melrose Avenue and neighboring publicly-owned land into a dynamic public open space and green street.

Feet First fully supports the project and believes it should be a top priority for funding made available to transportation, parks and open space, green storm water infrastructure, and neighborhood planning initiatives.

The **Melrose Promenade** project would:

- Advance citywide efforts to make Seattle more sustainable, placing an emphasis on expanding and improving our pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure;
- Improve connectivity between residential neighborhoods and Downtown Seattle;
- Make Melrose Avenue safer and less prone to criminal activity due to better lighting, more people, and "eyes on the street";
- Create a new public open space that would offer visitors to the city and to Capitol Hill sweeping views of the Seattle skyline, the iconic Space Needle, and the Olympic Mountains; and
- Offer nearby residents a one-of-a-kind, easily accessible public amenity, a place to stroll or to enjoy a book, a gathering spot that would serve as the "front porch" to Capitol Hill.

The Melrose Promenade proposal is consistent with several citywide and neighborhood-focused planning efforts, including east/west connections to Lake Union and Capitol Hill. Seattle's Comprehensive Plan includes a section

on the Capitol Hill Neighborhood Plan, which recommends creating opportunities for new parks on publicly-owned land and enhancing existing public spaces. In the Pedestrian Master Plan, portions of Melrose are rated as “Tier 1” and “high priority” areas in need of improvement.

The **Melrose Promenade** works towards the City of Seattle’s vision of becoming the most walkable city in the nation. Thank you for your consideration of funding this project that leverages many elements: parks and open space, green storm water infrastructure, and neighborhood planning initiatives, to create a walking environment that connects people, places and other forms of transportation.

Should you have any questions about this letter, feel free to contact me by emailing lisa@feetfirst.org or calling 206-652-2310 ext. 6.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Quinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lisa" and last name "Quinn" clearly distinguishable.

Lisa Quinn
Executive Director

cc:

Mike Kent, Steering Committee Member, Capitol Hill TOD Champion
George Bakan, President, Capitol Hill Community Council
Seth Schromen-Wawrin, Chair, Pedestrian Advisory Board, City of Seattle