

December 6, 2004

Hon. Patty Murray, Senator  
2988 Jackson Federal Building  
915 2nd Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98174

Hon. Maria Cantwell, Senator  
915 Second Avenue, Suite 3206  
Seattle, WA 98174

Hon. David Reichert, Representative-elect  
c/o Friends of Dave Reichert  
P.O. Box 53322  
Bellevue, WA 98015


After reviewing the recent information about Rubberized Asphalt, the Mayors of Beaux Arts, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Medina and Yarrow Point respectfully request that the Federal Highway Administration authorize the Washington State Department of Transportation to use Quiet Pavement on the East Channel Bridge as a means of mitigating the noise impact of that portion of Interstate 90 on the neighboring communities of Beaux Arts Village, Mercer Island, and South Bellevue.

We understand there are currently some concerns about and/or Federal funding restrictions on using this material as a means of mitigating road-surface noise. We are asking you, as our legislators, to remove these roadblocks so that Quiet Pavement technology can be applied to the East Channel Bridge on a test basis. The Arizona Department of Transportation has had great success using this technology in environments that experience far greater weather extremes than the Puget Sound. It seems to make a great deal of sense to try quiet pavement in this area, particularly since it would be of great benefit to the cities and towns bordering I-90 in reducing noise levels.


In supporting quiet pavement on I-90, we are mindful also of its great potential for use on SR-520, which we also enthusiastically endorse. A test trial on the East Channel Bridge would give everyone, including the WSDOT, an opportunity to assess how well this material works in the traffic and weather conditions we experience throughout the Puget Sound. We believe this test will support its use on SR-520 as well.


Please distribute this letter to the FHWA and any other agencies that may be involved in granting a waiver to allow the use of this material and let us know what other action may be needed to accomplish this goal.


Sincerely,

  
Charles R. Lowry, Mayor  
Town of Beaux Arts Village

  
Fred McConkey, Mayor  
Town of Hunts Point

  
George Martin, Mayor  
City of Clyde Hill

  
Mary Odermat, Mayor  
City of Medina

  
Jeanne Berry, Mayor  
Town of Yarrow Point

cc: Doug McDonald, WSDOT    Connie Marshall, Mayor, City of Bellevue  
Maureen Sullivan, WSDOT    Alan Merkel, Mayor, City of Mercer Island  
Mary-Alyce Burleigh, Mayor, City of Kirkland