



July 13, 2021

Honorable Lynn Peterson, Metro Council President  
Honorable Shirley Craddick, JPACT Chair  
Metro Council / Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT)

**RE: Support for Resolution No. 21-5192, For the Purpose of Amending the  
2021-24 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) to  
Add ODOT's Interstate 205-Abernethy Bridge Improvement Segment**

Dear President Peterson, Chair Craddick, and members of the Metro Council and JPACT:

The City of Wilsonville and our public-transit agency South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) strongly support Resolution No. 21-5192 that adds ODOT's Interstate 205-Abernethy Bridge Improvement Segment to the MTIP, thereby advancing a vital project that will help to improve regional mobility along the crucial I-205 corridor.

I-205 is an important link on the regional interstate system, providing a wide variety of economic benefits to the greater Portland metro area, Oregon and the Pacific Northwest region, and the nation as a whole. The Abernethy Bridge is a key facility over the major Willamette River that serves a crucial role on I-205 and the interstate highway system.

Improved mobility on I-205 is essential for the efficient, timely movement of both commuting workers and freight for international trade. As a community that hosts over 20,000 jobs—with over half of the positions in family-wage traded-sector industrial occupations—where 9 out of 10 employees commute from elsewhere to work in Wilsonville, a well-functioning I-205 is important for gainful employment, the conduct of commerce and advancement of regional economic-development efforts.

The I-205 project also provides for seismic retrofitting of key roadway facilities in anticipation of a projected Cascadia Subduction earthquake, as well as the opportunity to provide new, improved bus-on-shoulder public-transit options along this congested highway corridor.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie Fitzgerald, Mayor  
City of Wilsonville

Dwight Brashear, Director  
South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART)