

## City of Seattle

Seattle Freight Advisory Board

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The Seattle Freight Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the City in development of a functional and efficient freight system and on all matters related to freight and the impact that actions by the City may have upon the freight environment.

City Council Resolution 31243

The Honorable Wendy Chun-Hoon, Director U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau Office Number S-3002 200 Constitution Ave NW Washington, DC 20210

May 24th 2023

*Re: REAL Women in Trucking, Inc. FOA-WB-23-01 – FY 23 Fostering Access, Rights and Equity (FARE) Grant Program application to advance advocacy supporting women truck drivers* 

Dear Director Chun-Hoon:

The Seattle Freight Advisory Board (SFAB) is writing to support REAL Women in Trucking's grant application for FARE funds to continue advocacy efforts on behalf of women drivers. This grant would also support the creation of a curriculum and training guide for industry stakeholders to address sexual harassment and assault in the industry.

The SFAB was founded in 2010 by Seattle City Council Resolution to advise the Mayor, City Council, and City Departments on matters related to freight. We are appointees from business, private organizations, public agencies, and on trade in Seattle WA and the surrounding Puget Sound Region. Therefore, our mission includes advocating for workforce development and the equity needs of people in these essential jobs.

An organization such as this takes on crucial activities that seek to develop an equitable work place – even though this work occurs in a moving truck tractor. 2012 Bureau of Labor Statistics data indicated that 6% of truck drivers are women, but they experience even more hardships when attempting to access basic human needs on the road. As we move to a post-pandemic economy, those same women who kept our goods moving should be able to access resources to feel safer in their workplace.

The SFAB supports this grant because of our interest in all levels of the supply chain and the need to retain people in essential goods movement jobs such as trucking. We also endorse the development of materials and training that this grant application seeks to develop. Thank you for your full consideration of this REAL Women in Trucking grant application.

Sincerely,

Dan Kelly Seattle Freight Advisory Board Chair

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 3800, PO Box 34996, Seattle, WA 98124-4996 Tel: (206) 684-4524 Tel: (206) 684-5000 Fax: (206) 684-3772 Web: www.seattle.gov/sfab/ An equal opportunity employer. Accommodations for people with disabilities provided on request.