



City of Seattle

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Freight
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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

Seattle City Council
PO Box 34025
Seattle, WA 98124-4025

Dear Seattle City Council Members,

The Seattle Freight Advisory Board (SFAB) applauds the Mayor's inclusion of funds in the 2013 & 2014 budgets for Seattle's first Comprehensive Freight Master Plan. We are writing to you to urge the Council to approve the 2013 budget with these funds in place.

Seattle is a vibrant city with huge potential to become an even more attractive place to live and do business. It is important that our planning for future growth incorporate all modes to ensure that Seattle has the best possible integrated infrastructure for bicycles, pedestrians, transit and freight. Freight is the lifeblood of this city, whether it is deliveries to local businesses, movement of components for manufacturing, or freight to support a working waterfront.

While the workings of freight are sometimes invisible and not well understood by most, maintaining—and in some instances, improving—the “arteries” that carry that flow is critical for Seattle's future. The City of Seattle is challenged by a hilly geography and the fact that it is bounded by two bodies of water. This makes it even more important to have well-considered, comprehensive modal planning that supports an integrated system that ensures optimal flow for all modes. Comprehensive planning that looks at all modes will help to resolve areas of conflict, manage congestion for the citizens of our city, increase safety and give environmental benefits.

SFAB endorses the Mayor's budget item to dedicate funds for a Comprehensive Freight Master Plan and would like the City Council to approve these funds. If SFAB can help answer any questions regarding the need for such a plan, we would be happy to brief you.

Sincerely,

Warren Aakervik
Chair
Seattle Freight Advisory Board

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