



Washington State Legislature

March 14, 2016

Seattle City Council
City of Seattle
600 4th Ave
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Councilmembers,

We write to urge you to oppose the planned right-of-way vacation of Occidental Avenue S in Seattle's Duwamish Manufacturing/Industrial Center. This action is intended to pave the way for a professional sports arena in the south downtown industrial area. We understand the strong desire to bring professional basketball back to our state and strongly support that intended goal. However, that must not come at the expense of middle class jobs, which are largely created by our maritime, manufacturing, and industrial sectors.

The site of the proposed street vacation represents the crossroads of international trade, manufacturing, and transportation interests that together form a key economic engine for our state. This area serves multiple stakeholders, including our state's agricultural interests and other exporters located outside Puget Sound. Adding additional pressure to getting goods in and out of Seattle could have devastating effects. Given the recent passage of a large-scale, long-term statewide transportation package that invests in critical trade corridors, it would be counterproductive to site a new sports facility in an area already confronting major traffic issues. As legislators representing an array of constituencies that rely on efficient goods movement and easy access to international trade gateways, we stand together in opposition to the proposed Occidental street vacation.

There must be a future for both professional sports and a strong and thriving middle class. An early decision on vacating Occidental Avenue would deal a serious blow to our region's global competitiveness.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Curtis King
Chairman, Transportation Committee
Washington State Senate

Judy Clibborn
Chairwoman, Transportation Committee
Washington State House of Representatives



Washington State Legislature

Senator Randi Becker
2nd Legislative District

Representative Sherry Appleton
23rd Legislative District

Senator John Braun
20th Legislative District

Representative Brian Blake
19th Legislative District

Senator Sharon Brown
8th Legislative District

Representative David Sawyer
29th Legislative District

Senator Maralyn Chase
32nd Legislative District

Representative Hans Zeiger
25th Legislative District

Senator Steve Conway
29th Legislative District

Representative Jessyn Farrell
46th Legislative District

Senator Doug Ericksen
42nd Legislative District

Representative Noel Frame
36th Legislative District

Senator Bob Hasegawa
11th Legislative District

Representative Roger Goodman
45th Legislative District



Washington State Legislature

Senator Mike Hewitt
16th Legislative District

Representative Mia Gregerson
33rd Legislative District

Senator Jim Honeyford
15th Legislative District

Representative Sam Hunt
22nd Legislative District

Senator John McCoy
38th Legislative District

Representative Norm Johnson
14th Legislative District

Senator Pam Roach
31st Legislative District

Representative Matt Manweller
13th Legislative District

Senator Christine Rolfes
23rd Legislative District

Representative Luis Moscoso
1st Legislative District

Senator Dean Takko
19th Legislative District

Representative Ed Orcutt
20th Legislative District

Senator Judy Warnick
13th Legislative District

Representative Strom Peterson
21st Legislative District



Washington State Legislature

Handwritten signature of Derek Stanford in black ink.

Representative Derek Stanford
1st Legislative District

Handwritten signature of JD Rossetti in black ink.

Representative JD Rossetti
19th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Gael Tarleton in black ink.

Representative Gael Tarleton
36th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Cindy Ryu in black ink.

Representative Cindy Ryu
32nd Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Sharon Wylie in black ink.

Representative Sharon Wylie
49th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Sharon Tomiko Santos in black ink.

Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos
37th Legislative District