

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
C/O 4534 UNIVERSITY WAY NE
SEATTLE, WA 98105
udistrictcouncil@hotmail.com

May 8, 2019

K. Jane Williams, Acting Administrator
Matthew Welbes, Executive Director
Federal Transit Administration - East Building
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Linda Gehrke, Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration - Region 10 Office
915 Second Avenue, Suite 3142
Seattle, WA 98174-1002

Re: U District Station Area Mobility Planning

Dear Acting Administrator Williams, Executive Director Welbes, and Regional Administrator Gehrke,

I am writing on behalf of the University District Community Council (UDCC). During our March 2019 meeting we unanimously passed a resolution requesting the city coordinate with Sound Transit and Metro to not foreclose transit options on Brooklyn Avenue NE as part of the University District light rail station scheduled to open in 2021. The current design for the 70' wide street has two 10' wide travel lanes that are too narrow to support buses which require a 10'-6" minimum. We encourage planning to widen these right of ways by six inches so as not to preclude possible future use by public transit.

Since the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is a major funding source for both our bus transit (King County Metro) and regional light rail (Sound Transit) we are asking for your support in correcting this egregious planning oversight. Brooklyn Avenue NE runs on the west side of the transit station connecting NE 43rd Street and NE 45th Street. Precluding transit options from this street is a serious design flaw.

We encourage your agency to engage with the major players (Sound Transit, Metro, Puget Sound Council of Governors and the Seattle Department of Transportation) to work towards keeping mass transit options open on Brooklyn Avenue NE for our pending U District Sound Transit Station (opening in 2021). Once concrete is poured, options such as having a street wide enough to accommodate public transit connections with our regional light rail system, will become impossible. This failure would also complicate ADA accessibility.

Your assistance and attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Matt Fox, President
University District Community Council