

**April 25, 2016**

**The Honorable Matt Watkins  
Mayor, City of Pasco  
525 N. Third Avenue  
Pasco, WA 99301**

**RE: City of Pasco Lewis Street Project**

**Dear Mayor Watkins:**

**I am writing to express the Tri-City Development Council's (TRIDEC's) support of the City of Pasco seeking federal grant funding for the Lewis Street undercrossing project. TRIDEC is the lead economic development organization serving the greater Tri-Cities and we recognize the importance of a robust inter-city transportation system to the regional economy.**

**As you know, the current Lewis Street undercrossing of the BNSF rail yard, built in 1937, is a narrow undercrossing with an adjacent pedestrian pathway. The structure does not meet ADA requirements, is structurally deficient and does not meet design standards – with no shoulders and very narrow lanes. The City has been seeking funding to replace this undercrossing with an overcrossing that spans the rail yard and also provides a safe connection for bikes and pedestrians.**

**Lewis Street is an important east-west connection for economic development. It connects the businesses downtown to the west with the Port and industrial development areas to the east. Lewis Street is an important link to meet the community and regional growth and if rebuilt as a modern structure to current design standards, can accommodate trucks, bikes and emergency vehicles.**

**In 2015, the Washington state legislature approved a 16-year package of transportation earmarks including \$15 million dollars for replacing the Lewis Street undercrossing in the 2019-2021 biennium. This investment brings this long needed improvement closer to reality. With matching grant**

**investments like TIGER and FASTLANE, this project can transform and renew Pasco.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl F. Adrian', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Carl F. Adrian  
President/CEO**