

City of

Mount
Vernon

Mayor

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September 5, 2008

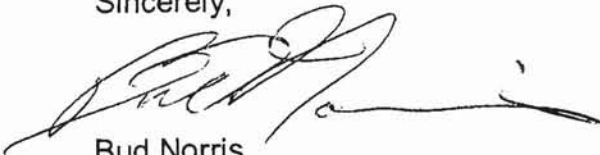
Washington State Department of Transportation
State Rail & Marine Office
310 Maple Park Ave. SE, Rm. SA17
Olympia, WA 98501-2361

Dear Sir or Madam,

The City of Mount Vernon supports Burlington's Freight Rail Assistance application to obtain funding for preliminary engineering work to replace the BNSF Skagit River Bridge. This bridge has been identified in several flood control studies as a significant concern during Skagit River flooding.

Replacement of this bridge will be a necessary measure in any regional flood control project; therefore, we believe forming a partnership now to replace the bridge will be beneficial to BNSF, our local community, the region, and the state.

Sincerely,



Bud Norris
Mayor