

**COLUMBIA CORRIDOR**  
A S S O C I A T I O N

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
United States Senate

The Honorable Gordon Smith  
United States Senate

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Darlene Hooley  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Greg Walden  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable David Wu  
U.S. House of Representatives

13 February 2007

RE: Northbound Access From Airport Way to I-205; Portland, Oregon

Dear Members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation:

The Columbia Corridor Association would like to express its support of the \$2 million appropriations request submitted by the Port of Portland to continue preliminary engineering of improved northbound access from Airport Way to I-205.

As you know, passenger and cargo traffic at Portland International Airport (PDX) is increasing at rates above the national averages. At the same time, a large retail, office, and commercial development adjacent to the airport (known as Portland International Center) is under construction. IKEA will open a store there in summer 2007. Cars and trucks leaving PDX on Airport Way or traveling from east Multnomah County already experience long back-ups as they turn onto Interstate 205 going northbound into Washington State. Congestion at this intersection will only worsen as passenger and cargo traffic increases, the Portland International Center development opens for business, and the surrounding area continues to grow.

The \$2 million requested by the Port of Portland would continue the preliminary engineering of an improved interchange that would be able to handle much more car and truck traffic than the current intersection. These federal funds would leverage \$8 million that the Port of Portland and private developers are contributing to the \$15 million cost of preliminary engineering.

Much good planning work has been done to make the development of this area productive and efficient. The last significant obstacle to continued productivity is the need for a new 205 ramp. The Columbia Corridor Association strongly supports this appropriations request to insure the wisest development of this key area.

Thank you for your attention to this request and please contact us if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corky Collier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial "C".

Corky Collier  
Executive Director