



Ryan K. Thurston  
Seattle F.R.I.E.N.D.S.  
701 N 34<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 300  
Seattle, WA 98103

August 6, 2007

Dear Ryan:

I am writing on behalf of the Fremont Chamber of Commerce to express our support for Seattle F.R.I.E.N.D.S. and your mission to stop suicides from the Aurora Bridge.

The Aurora Bridge has the dubious distinction of being the second most deadly (in terms of suicides) span in the United States, and we have already seen eight people jump this year. Indeed, there is nothing good about people committing suicide, by *any means anywhere*, but the business community of Fremont faces a unique situation in that the Aurora Bridge spans mostly over land and many of the jumpers land on the pavement below the bridge. It is a given that friends and family of jumpers are left grief-stricken, and left to wonder why, but there are added components as well. People on the ground, or in the surrounding apartments and office complexes are left traumatized when they witness the suicides, and people on the ground underneath are left with the unprecedented safety concern of a body falling from the bridge. Given these issues the Fremont Chamber of Commerce is also a supporter of an extended safety barrier on the bridge.

We support the mission of Seattle F.R.I.E.N.D.S. and are right there with you in the effort to end suicides from the Aurora Bridge. Hopefully your goals will be met soon!

Sincerely,  
Michael H. Jerrett  
Executive Director

**Fremont Chamber of Commerce—PO Box 31139, Seattle, WA 98103**