

City of Seattle

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Seattle Transportation

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Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

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January, 2008

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The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the City on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the City may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the City's planning processes insofar as they may relate to pedestrian safety and access.

> City Council Resolution 28791

Councilmember Jan Drago Seattle City Council Box 34025 Seattle, WA 98124

Dear Councilmember Drago,

Thank you on behalf of the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board for your efforts to create a historically appropriate barrier on the Aurora Bridge. As pedestrian advocates, we support the efforts of the Seattle FRIENDS organization to keep the bridge open to pedestrians and bicyclists. We feel that closing it to all but motor vehicles would cut off a vital north-to-south corridor and send a discouraging message to pedestrians. As improvements to sidewalks along Aurora and SR 99 proceed, and housing continues to expand in the area, we believe more pedestrians will be using this route.

The barrier will both increase safety for people on and below the bridge and discourage suicides. We are pleased to support its development. We hope to have representatives at the upcoming Public Design Workshop. Please let us know if we can help in other ways in the planning and design.

Sincerely,

Chris Tachibana for the Pedestrian Advisory Board

cc: Ms. Paula Hammond (WSDOT)