



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Transportation

Region 1  
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November 2, 2009

Ms. Mary Rose Navarro  
Metro  
Natural Areas Program  
Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants  
600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232

File Code:

Subject: *Re-greening Park Avenue Light Rail Station and Park & Ride: Metro Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grant Application*

Dear Ms. Navarro:

This letter expresses support for the *Re-greening Park Avenue Light Rail Station and Park & Ride application for the Metro Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grant*. The Oregon Department of Transportation is pleased to support this project, which will add sustainable development and habitat enhancement elements to two major regional transportation infrastructure projects – the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail project and the Trolley Trail.

The “*Re-Greening*” grant application is for a proposed project that will enhance existing degraded riparian and upland forest, expand storm water treatment for a high volume section of state highway through constructing a natural storm water retention and water quality treatment swale, and will provide intensive plantings and green features to new proposed structures, including a parking garage, urban plaza, and vertical retaining walls for the Trolley Trail.

ODOT is especially excited about the multiple partners supporting this grant proposal, and the demonstrated commitments from Urban Green, Tri-met, the North Clackamas Park and Recreation District, the Oak Lodge Community Council, the North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council and the Clackamas County Planning Department. This across-the-community coalition of support shows that this project has value that is recognized locally and regionally and is worthy of implementation as conceived and presented in the grant application.

We believe this project demonstrates the collaborative spirit that is part of the Portland metropolitan character and has worked to establish the Portland urban area’s well-deserved reputation for livability and progressive development. ODOT looks forward to participating in the process to design the re-greening of the *Park Avenue Light Rail Station and Park & Ride* and working with TriMet and Urban Green to create a green and vibrant neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Jason Tell  
ODOT Region 1 Manager

CC:

Leah Robbins, TriMet  
Chips Janger, Urban Green

