December 1, 2010

The Honorable Steve Lacy
Mayor, City of East Wenatchee
271 9th Street NE
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

The Honorable Ken Stanton
Chair, Douglas County Commissioners
P.O. Box 747
Waterville, WA 98858-0747

RE: WSDOT right-of-way surplus process

Dear Mayor Lacy and Commissioner Stanton:

Thank you for your October 12th letter expressing the recommendations of the City of East Wenatchee and Douglas County for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) right-of-way along the Columbia River between the Odabashian and George Sellar bridges. The Apple Capital Loop Trail and adjoining lands are community assets appreciated by all who live here and those who chose to vacation in our valley.

By now, I know you have received the response from WSDOT Secretary Paula Hammond. I am encouraged to learn she continues to be committed to preserving the Apple Capital Loop Trail between the two bridges, and will remain an advocate as long as possible in keeping this property off any surplus list that may come before the Legislature this session. I also appreciate the direction Secretary Hammond has provided in her letter. In summary, her outline recommends:

- Developing some form of minimum trail right-of-way plan to protecting the trail proper, providing provisions to public access to the river, while developing a more formal complete community plan and vision.
- Focusing on developing a plan and vision first without knowing the funding sources.
- Updating the comprehensive plans and associated zoning designations between the two bridges.
- Identifying an acquisition and maintenance strategy.

This outline is much better than the one I provided in my December 18th, 2009 email to you. I have enclosed a copy for your reference. It is crucial that we provide the information Secretary Hammond is seeking as quickly as possible.
I know that our regional WSDOT director and staff have offered to help as we work through this process. Although I will be leaving for the Olympia at the first of the year, please do not hesitate to contact me, if there is a specific way I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

LINDA EVANS PARLETTE
Washington State Senator
12th Legislative District

Cc: Paula Hammond, Secretary of Transportation
    Dan Sarles, WSDOT North Central Regional Administrator
    Lori Barnett, City of East Wenatchee
    Mark Kulaas, Douglas County

Encl: Senator Parlette’s 12/18 email to Mayor Lacy and Douglas County Commissioners