



## Washington State Legislature

July 17, 2012

Rear Admiral Keith Taylor, Commander  
Thirteenth Coast Guard District  
Jackson Federal Building  
915 Second Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98174-1076

Dear Rear Admiral Taylor:

As legislators from southwest Washington, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your proactive involvement in the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) bridge height issue. We are aware the United States Coast Guard has been working tirelessly with CRC officials to ensure that when a bridge permit application is filed, it will meet the required criteria.

We appreciate your ensuring that all river users' concerns are addressed professionally and fairly, and understand that you are working with the CRC to discuss solutions including bridge heights greater than 95 feet with those users. While the \$40 billion in trade that crosses the river each year is essential to our state, it is imperative that the \$3 billion in commercial cargo freight that travels down river not be impeded by any structure. It is clear that your priority is to keep river traffic flowing.

We are grateful to have you and your team finding productive solutions on this important issue. If there is anything we can do to assist you, feel free to contact any of our offices.

Sincerely,

Senator Ann Rivers  
18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Representative Ed Orcutt  
18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Don Benton  
17<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Representative Tim Probst  
17<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Representative Paul Harris  
17<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Senator Curtis King  
14<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Representative Charles Ross  
14<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Representative Norm Johnson  
14<sup>th</sup> Legislative District