



PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 of CHELAN COUNTY

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March 19, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Wenatchee, WA – Apple Capital Loop Project INFRA Grant Program Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Chelan PUD writes in support of the City of Wenatchee's INFRA grant program application to secure funding for the Apple Capital Loop Project.

Chelan PUD owns Wenatchee Confluence State Park and Horan Natural Area located within the proposed alignment of the Confluence Parkway Segment 2B, Hawley Street North SR 285 Bypass. This 197-acre park area is included as part of Chelan PUD's federal license for the Rock Island Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 943. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission manages the park through a lease and operating agreement with Chelan PUD. Chelan PUD also owns, operates, and maintains high voltage distribution and transmission lines, and fiber telecommunication infrastructure within the proposed Confluence Parkway route.

Wenatchee Confluence State Park and adjoining Horan Natural Area provide recreation, trails, and a nature preserve at the north end of the City of Wenatchee in Chelan County, Washington. Maintaining the integrity of the recreation, cultural, and environmental resources afforded by this unique area is of great importance. As such, Chelan PUD supports a thorough environmental review and stakeholder engagement process during the NEPA process to address recreation, environmental, and power line infrastructure impacts associated with the proposed alignment of the Confluence Parkway.

Chelan PUD appreciates the vision and amount of collaboration and effort that has gone into this project to relieve traffic congestion in the North Wenatchee area. The potential investment of public funds could significantly affect the Wenatchee Valley for generations. Chelan PUD looks forward to working with the City of Wenatchee and other stakeholders during this Project's NEPA process and other planning phases.

Sincerely,

Michelle Smith

Michelle Smith
Director, Hydro Licensing and Compliance