



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of MACHINISTS
and AEROSPACE WORKERS
DISTRICT LODGE No. 160

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December 14, 2016

Via Hand Delivery and U.S. Mail

Mayor Edward B. Murray
P.O. Box 94749
Seattle, WA 98124-4749

Re: *Completion of the Missing Link of the Burke Gilman Trail*

Dear Mr. Mayor,

I am the Business Representative of the International Association of Machinists District Lodge 160 (IAM District 160). On behalf of IAM District 160, I am writing to express our deep concern regarding SDOT's proposal to complete the Missing Link of the Burke Gilman Trail through Ballard's maritime and industrial corridor along Shilshole Avenue NW. IAM District 160 implores the City to reconsider this position and instead design and construct the trail along the alternative located on Leary Avenue and Market Street.

With approximately 4,500 active members, IAM District 160 is one of the largest and most diverse labor unions in the region. Our membership includes aerospace workers, manufacturing workers, automotive workers, transportation workers, and public sector employees including engineers, scientists, and medical professionals. Many of our members work at the businesses located along Shilshole Avenue NW. The City's proposal to construct a recreational bicycle trail through this area threatens the livelihood of those businesses, and in turn, threatens the jobs and livelihoods of our union members.

To us, it is absurd that the City would even consider trading the job security of its workers for 1.5 miles of recreational bicycle trail. The alternative on Leary Avenue and Market Street is a reasonable compromise that gives the bicycling community the bicycle trail it wants while maintaining the thousands of jobs provided by the maritime and industrial businesses located on Shilshole Avenue.

IAM District 160 requests the City reconsiders its position regarding construction of the trail on Shilshole Avenue in favor of the reasonable solution on Leary Avenue and Market Street. There should be no question between moving this project a couple of blocks compared to the risk of losing thousands of union and family-wage jobs.

Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me if we can be of any assistance regarding this important issue. IAM 160 strongly urges the City to move the Missing Link out of the industrial and maritime area to Market and Leary.

Sincerely,

Paul Miller
District Representative
International Association of Machinists District Lodge 160