



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

307944

Transportation Building
310 Maple Park Avenue S.E.
P.O. Box 47300
Olympia, WA 98504-7300
360-705-7000
TTY: 1-800-833-6388
www.wsdot.wa.gov

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February 5, 2024

Mr. Brian O'Boyle
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Docket No. EP 774 (Sub-No. 1)

Dear Mr. O'Boyle:

I would like to nominate myself for the Surface Transportation Board's newly formed Passenger Railroad Advisory Committee. I am including the requested information below.

1. Name, position and business contact name of the nominee:

Roger Millar, Secretary of Transportation
Washington State Department of Transportation
PO Box 47316
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 705-7054 office
millarr@wsdot.wa.gov

2. Interest the candidate will represent:

PRAC representative from a state that provides funding for intercity passenger rail; or, as one of three at-large representatives with relevant experience in transportation planning and transportation-related public policy work.

3. Summary of the Candidate's experience and qualifications for the position:

Roger Millar is an experienced land use and transportation engineer, planner and program manager with an international reputation for innovative approaches to conservation and development. The prominent theme that has run through his career has been planning and implementing integrated, multimodal transportation systems that are not ends unto themselves; but rather the means toward economic vitality, environmental stewardship, social equity, public health and aesthetic quality. He is both a certified planner and professional engineer with experience

working for local, regional and state governments along with providing consultant services to those agencies.

Since 2017 he has served as the chief executive officer for the Washington State Department of Transportation, an agency of approximately 7,400 employees statewide and an annual budget of almost \$5 billion. He oversees an agency that is the steward of an integrated, multimodal transportation system (including passenger rail) and responsible for ensuring that people and goods move safely and efficiently on and between those modes. In addition to building, maintaining and operating the state highway system, WSDOT is responsible for providing intercity passenger rail service in western Washington and the state ferry system. WSDOT also works in partnership with others to maintain and improve local roads, railroads (including some state-owned freight rail lines) and airports, as well as supporting alternatives to driving, such as public transportation, passenger rail, bicycles and pedestrian programs. As an experienced multi-modal planner Millar sees the bigger picture of how all of the transportation modes work together to meet local, regional, state and interstate mobility and commerce needs.

His role at WSDOT also includes ultimate oversight of the *Amtrak Cascades* intercity passenger rail service (Vancouver, British Columbia -Eugene, Oregon) as well as the Cascadia High Speed Rail and I-5 Program, working on current-day rail needs as well as planning for the future and how passenger train and ultra-high-speed options can work in conjunction with the larger Cascadia Megaregion transportation system. Washington's co-sponsorship of the *Amtrak Cascades* services, with Amtrak contracted to run the service primarily on BNSF-owned and operated freight rail lines, also provides Millar insight into many facets of coordinating both passenger and freight rail needs and challenges, as well as interstate and international regulations and requirements in offering such service. The ultra-high speed planning work includes MOUs with Washington and Oregon state officials and Canadian officials as well as also partnering with the private sector for research and funding assistance.

Millar currently serves on USDOT's Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity, and recently served as the president of the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), representing the needs and concerns of all state DOTs both nationally as well as internationally. He has also served as chair of AASHTO's councils on public transportation and freight. In addition, Millar has served on the board of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and is the immediate past president of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute, which also represents national and international members and issues. In these various roles he's familiar with local,

Mr. Brian O'Boyle
February 5, 2024
Page 3

state, national and international transportation issues and potential solutions. He's also participated in numerous panels about transportation system needs, including testifying to Congress about funding, regulation and infrastructure needs.

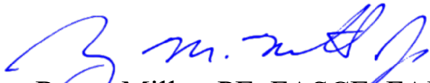
4. Representation that the candidate is willing to serve as a member of the PRAC:

I am willing to serve as a member of the PRAC and look forward to working with others on the Committee to assist the STB.

5. Statement that the candidate agrees to serve in a representative capacity:

I agree to serve in a representative capacity and will contribute to the committee appropriately.

Sincerely,



Roger Millar, PE, FASCE, FAICP
Secretary of Transportation