



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

October 13, 2017

Amazon
Office of Economic Development
c/o Site Manager Golden
2121 7th Ave
Seattle, WA 98121

Dear Mr. Bezos and Mr. Schoettler,

We understand there are many reasons for your decision to potentially site HQ2 in a different city. To the extent that this decision was based on Amazon feeling unwelcome in Seattle, or not being included in some of our regional decisions, we would like to hit the refresh button.

You have heard mixed messages from our community, whether it stems from comments in our local newspapers or comments from elected officials who have differing views and positions that are less than collaborative.

This does not leave a good taste in anyone's mouth.

Those of us who are signing onto this letter want you to know we have heard you. We also want you to stay with us and grow with us, both in Seattle and with our sister cities across the state.

To begin a new relationship, we want to form a true partnership, and realign how we live and work with you in our community. We can do this by targeting identified needs and agree on solutions that are achievable within a defined schedule.

As a first step, let's create a joint task force that will use data to drive results on topics such as transportation, freight mobility, safety, public health investments, educational opportunities and more. We invite you to join us as partners. We will include other businesses large and small, as well colleagues from our schools, labor, and other governments in our region. We should invite neighborhood and community leaders too. Here's what we propose and we welcome you to add to the list below:

1. Transportation: Getting to and from South Lake Union and Downtown is congested and getting worse. We suggest creating a tactical group that includes Metro, Sound Transit, SDOT, WSDOT and IT innovators such as the TASKAR group at the University of Washington School of Engineering. The city can also dedicate planners to work on the project. Let's work together to map out the current commute patterns of your employees and identify potential infrastructure and transit solutions. Let's mine the data, target decisions about bus and bike routes, make sure our drivers and pedestrians have safe connections through innovative solutions, and move everyone to and through the corridor predictably and swiftly.

2. Freight Mobility: We are relying on package deliveries more than ever in our city. We know that problems arise for delivery trucks in the last 50 feet and that improving dwell time is critical. We propose including Amazon drivers, UPS, Fed Ex and other freight leaders to creatively solve these issues. We can look to our IT innovators to help with apps to schedule delivery times and reserve spaces on our streets. Much data has already been collected; your involvement and that of other experts will lead us to faster solutions across the city and region.

Mr. Bezos and Mr. Schoettler
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3. Public Safety: In a 24/7 economy, public safety is an around the clock concern. We propose to convene a work group that includes your employees, neighborhood residents and workers, your security staff and the West Precinct leadership to address daytime and nighttime safety concerns. Let's develop a plan that increases security through CPTED principles (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), and increases positive activation on the sidewalks and streets. We already do this in other neighborhoods; we can do this in South Lake Union too.

4. The Gig Economy: The gig economy is proliferating and more of our workforce is made up of employees who are contract workers. Amazon is a visionary leading the evolution of this new model of work, and we would like to be on the forefront of helping this new workforce thrive in Seattle and beyond. An estimated 33% of workers now are in non-standard employment, and contract workers do not have the same rights nor are they protected by many of our labor laws. We would like to work with you, other employers, employees and contract workers to establish new policies around fair work, schedules, and livable wages.

5. Public Education: We agree with Jeff Wilke's recent statements about a recognized need for local communities to promote the STEM fields in middle and high school. We have already reached out to Seattle Public Schools Superintendent and Board members and invited them to the table. We would like you to join us to develop curricula and internship programs that open doors for generations of Seattle children -- whether they are born here, they have immigrated here, or English is their second language. We want to expand access across our city to science, technology, and the arts. We can build on models such as the Dual System in Germany that provide options for every student to gain the skills to go to work and be productive whether on the factory floor, in an office, or in a college or university.

We want to build and align these opportunities for apprenticeship programs, internships, and certificate programs through Seattle Public Schools and our local colleges and university. We want to work with you, our students, and other interested partners from business, labor, industry, colleges and universities and more. We can create opportunities for every student to maximize his or her earning power right out of high school. What we need is determined leadership within our community and some deadlines.

These ideas are just the beginning. We want to be your partners and reset the creative and economic environment in South Lake Union as well as for neighborhoods across our city and region. Our ears are wide open and we look forward to hearing from you.

We wish you all the best,



Sally Bagshaw
Seattle City Council



Bruce Harrell, President
Seattle City Council



Lisa Herbold
Seattle City Council



Lorena González
Seattle City Council



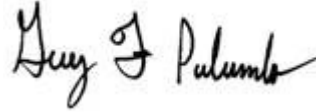

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Rob Johnson
Seattle City Council

Reuven Carlyle
Washington State Senate



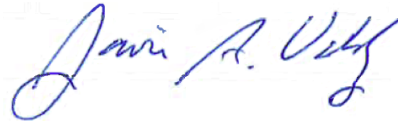
Judy Clibborn
Washington State House of Representatives



Guy Palumbo
Washington State Senate



Jamie Pedersen
Washington State Senate



Javier Valdez
Washington State House of Representatives



Rod Dembowski
King County Council




Jeanne Kohl-Welles
King County Council



Joe McDermott, Chair
King County Council



Tom Albro
Port of Seattle



Stephanie Bowman
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John Creighton
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Courtney Gregoire
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Shouan Pan
Chancellor, Seattle Colleges



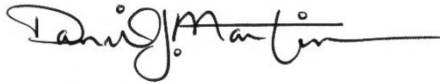
Warren Brown
President, North Seattle College



Sheila Edwards Lange
President, Seattle Central College



Peter H. Lortz
Interim President, South Seattle College



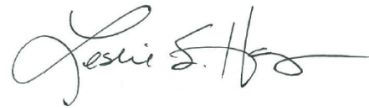
Dan Martin, President
Seattle Pacific University



Rick Burke
Board Director, Seattle Public Schools



Jill Geary
Board Director, Seattle Public Schools



Leslie Harris
Board Director, Seattle Public Schools