



April 13, 2016

Honorable Matt Watkins, Mayor of Pasco
Pasco City Hall
525 N Third Ave
Pasco, WA 99301

RE: Letter of Support for the City of Pasco Lewis Street Project

Dear Mayor Watkins,

Thank you for this opportunity to note Tri-City Union Gospel Mission's support for the Lewis Street overpass project in seeking federal grant funding. We believe that the downtown Pasco area is potentially a very interesting and vital historic destination! This is in part due to the heavily Hispanic population and businesses located there.

The downtown area can certainly be improved upon greatly; new sidewalks, upgrading the historic storefronts and buildings, and emphasizing the strong Mexican culture to attract customers. This can be a strong, growing area with the correct projects and input.

Of course, the new Lewis Street project will be a huge asset to the vitality of the downtown area by increasing accessibility and overall beautification. We have been a part of the downtown area since 1958 and have seen many changes in that time. Lewis Street used to be Highway 12 as it came through Pasco. Some of us at the Mission remember the busy shops as a very positive memory. I believe this can happen again with the increased and improved traffic patterns afforded with this project.

We at the Mission have invested heavily into the downtown Pasco area over the years and are soon to break ground on a new \$8.2M project there. This demonstrates our commitment to the preservation and maintenance of the downtown area in the years to come.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew J. Porter", is written over a white background.

Andrew J. Porter
Executive Director

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