

October 18, 2022

Kathi Littman
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 1100
Tacoma, WA 98402

Dear President Littman,

I am writing in response to your letter of October 18, 2022.

We appreciate your feedback today regarding the Forterra Strong Communities Fund projects in the Hilltop community. Forterra NW values your and the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation's consistent and engaged participation throughout the project, including your personal advice over the last few months that has helped guide the actions now being taken relating to the Hilltop project.

However, the specific points in your letter regarding the Hilltop project are outside the purview of Forterra NW's oversight. I know you are already familiar with the Forterra Strong Communities Fund Manager board of directors from your personal service on that board, and suggest you reach out to that organization directly to discuss these concerns.

The Forterra NW board has stated publicly that it has retained outside counsel to conduct a review of the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe's recent claims and Forterra's process in working with its grant application partners; this review is still ongoing. Upon receipt of that review, the Forterra NW board will consider its findings. At present, however, the Forterra NW board has confidence in Forterra's executive leadership and stands behind its leadership team.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BM' followed by a horizontal line.

Beth Birnbaum
Chair, Forterra NW