

**Qualified Opportunity Zone designation in the City of Kennewick
Letter of Support**

March 22, 2018

The Honorable Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee,

The continued growth of the Tri-Cities region is dependent upon the interlocal collaboration of partners to initiate projects and development that supports area-wide economic opportunity. Your office's work to establish Qualified Opportunity Zones in Washington State is one such effort that would provide holistic and continuing economic development to the Tri-Cities, and allow us to benefit one another in attracting high quality developments that increase job creation and retention.

As a partner and neighboring municipal organization, the Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership supports and requests your thoughtful consideration of designating two tracts in the City of Kennewick as Qualified Opportunity Zones. The designation of the requested tracts would allow the City of Kennewick to attract quality infill development, resulting in additional wage-equitable employment in the Tri-Cities. We have observed Kennewick's continued dedication to the identified areas, and believe this designation would provide investment outcomes favorable to all local jurisdictions across employment, commercial/residential development, and mixed-use urbanization.

Sincerely,



Daniel Smith
Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership
Executive Director