On Tuesday, Congressman Blumenauer joined US Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood to celebrate the groundbreaking of the SW Moody Ave. Project along the South Waterfront District Area in Portland.

The SW Moody Ave Project is a vital piece in the future economic success of the South Waterfront Area District. The project was funded in part by Recovery Act funds distributed through the U.S. DOT TIGER grant program and will include three traffic lanes, dual streetcar tracks and cycle tracks separated from auto traffic. Additionally, the project will assist the redevelopment of adjacent brownfields in anticipation of the Portland Milwaukie light rail line that is scheduled to open in 2015.

"I am honored that Sec. LaHood has joined us today to kick-off the construction of the SW Moody Ave. Project. The federal government's investment in this project is creating hundreds of jobs now and will lead to long-term employment as the South Waterfront District Area continues to grow.

Joining Congressman Blumenauer and Secretary LaHood were Senator Jeff Merkley, Congressmen Schrader and Wu, Portland Mayor Sam Adams, Oregon Transportation Commission Chair Gail Achterman, and Oregon Health Sciences University President Joe Robertson. The SW Moody Project is funded through state, local, and federal sources and is essential for construction of OHSU's Schnitzer campus, which will be located just north of the Ross Island Bridge upon the project’s completion.

Representatives Schrader and Blumenauer chat with Sec. of Transportation Ray LaHood.