

Resolution 5 - 11
Opposition to Tim Eyman's Attack on Tolls and Sound Transit
Resolution-1125

WHEREAS our State and Federal transportation systems are critical to the economy and security of the west coast of the United States and for the rest of the Nation, and

WHEREAS the valuable east- west corridors of I-90 and 520 support regional and local transportation needs for commerce, military and individuals. Connecting the world to the Pacific NW, and the Pacific NW to the Inland Empires of our nation and serves as a critical asset for our domestic economic vitality and national security, and

WHEREAS the multimodal transportation methods of individuals within the region's largest urban environment must take into consideration the shared interests of local neighbors in this east- west corridor, and

WHEREAS the personal, selfish views of one local developer attempting to purchase an Initiative election to gain the outcomes that suit his personal preference contradictory to voter support for Sound Transit access to Bellevue across I-90, and

WHEREAS the 520 bridge is very old, supported on crumbling pilings, and considered the most vulnerable part of Washington's east - west corridor system. Damage, or loss of use of either bridge due to earthquake, or other natural disaster, or human caused disruption will have severe negative consequences for the region and for the nation, and

WHEREAS millions of local, state, and federal dollars have been spent to study, plan, and make safety and capacity improvements for a coordinated rebuild of the east- west corridors crossing Lake Washington, and

WHEREAS supporting tolls for both bridges are a fair and necessary means to assess bridge users to help afford the safety and capacity needs of both the I-90 and 520 corridors east and west, to employ local transportation construction professionals from all phases of the construction sector, and

WHEREAS passage of I-1125 threatens our state, county and local government investments in both short and long term planning that have invested precious resources to reach agreement on design and implementation of the transportation plans and project needs to provide safe, efficient urban connections, over the lake and on to the Inland Empire, and

WHEREAS this petition is a necessary tool to inform the voting public that I-1125 is not in the best interest of Washington State citizens,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all Political Parties, Labor organizations and progressive organizations call upon all agencies and elected officials to unite behind the education and defeat of I-1125, and be united in recognition of the urgency that these transportation projects must go forward in this transportation funding cycle, and that tolling by corridor is an essential planning and funding tool that must be supported,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT disruptions to funding construction of a new 520 bridge, and light rail capacity on I-90 are irresponsible, and all responsible elected officials, labor and progressive organizations should move rapidly to complete the combined 520 and I-90 east-west corridor across Lake Washington.

Be it Finally Resolved, the president of the Washington State Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, will submit a copy of this resolution to the president of the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, for endorsement and support at the 2011 annual convention in Sea-Tac, Washington.

Submitted by
Seattle/King County Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO