

RESOLUTION NO. 3281

A RESOLUTION of the Port Commission of the Port of Seattle expressing the need for funding of transportation projects to reduce congestion and strengthen the region's economy and endorsing passage of Referendum 49

WHEREAS, the movement of freight is critical to the growth of Washington's economy and will be a pivotal factor in our ability to create jobs and stay competitive in the international marketplace,

WHEREAS, the Puget Sound region is North America's second largest gateway for containerized cargo and is an important link in the nation's transportation system,

WHEREAS, truck and rail traffic will increase with the expansion of Washington's economy and international trade flowing through our state,

WHEREAS, improved access to Puget Sound ports is essential to fostering the growth of Washington state businesses which depend on efficient access to international markets,

WHEREAS, improvements must be made to rail and road crossings and to relieve bottlenecks in high traffic areas to speed the movement of cargo, ease congestion and increase safety,

WHEREAS, the Port of Seattle has collaborated with the ports of Tacoma and Everett, the Washington State Department of Transportation, King County and other local governments to develop the Freight Action Strategy for the Seattle-Tacoma Corridor (FAST Corridor), a plan for grade separations at key rail crossings and improved port access,

WHEREAS, these important transportation improvements require financial support from local governments, the ports, Washington state and the federal government,

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature has voted to put Referendum 49 before the voters in the November 1998 general election, which would provide funds for statewide transportation improvements including important freight-mobility projects,

WHEREAS, Referendum 49 will create a forum for public discussion of transportation issues and will be an important step in a long-term effort to address our state's transportation needs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Port Commission of the Port of Seattle that

Section 1. The Port Commission endorses the passage of Referendum 49 by the state's voters and further, the Commission urges the Washington State Legislature to consider more comprehensive solutions to transportation needs in future legislative sessions.

ADOPTED by the Port Commission of the Port of Seattle at a regular meeting thereof, held this 9th day of June, 1998, and duly authenticated in open session by the signatures of the Commissioners voting in favor thereof and the seal of the Commission

Gary Grant
Patricia Davis
Al Reinhold
Paige R. Miller
John Blaylock
Port Commission