

**SEATTLE PORT COMMISSION MOTION
SUPPORTING PORT PARTICIPATION IN THE
ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT REPLACEMENT PROJECT
February 9, 2010**

Statement in Support of Motion

The Port of Seattle (“Port”) supports the replacement of Alaskan Way Viaduct with the bored tunnel alternative and related system improvements, as the design which affords essential transportation capacity, significant environmental benefits, and minimizes construction-related disruption on the waterfront.

The central waterfront section of the Viaduct is a critical north-south transportation facility of regional, state and national significance, one of two limited access routes through Seattle’s urban core carrying more than 100,000 vehicles daily. The Viaduct corridor is crucial to the region’s freight mobility because it provides for 1.5 million freight trips annually by grade-separation of through traffic, rail lines and industrial corridors near the Port’s marine terminals, which support the movement of \$30 billion in cargo value through the Port each year.

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program (“AWVSRP”) is committed to a replacement for the Viaduct that will improve waterfront transportation access for users, including over 8 million annual ferry riders; ensure connectivity, including an oversized-vehicle corridor, between the Ballard-Interbay and Duwamish industrial areas and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport; provide access to port cargo, fishing and cruise facilities; minimize construction disruption; and increase opportunities for the public and freight to access the shoreline and waterfront. Complementary system upgrades to the transportation system will be completed, including SR519, Spokane Street Widening, Mercer Corridor from Interstate 5 to Elliott Avenue, East Marginal Way Overpass, Intelligent Transportation Systems, seawall replacement (or rehabilitation), and transit enhancements.

The Port recognizes the economic importance of an efficient roadway network for the effective movement of freight and goods locally, nationally and internationally. The Port’s international trade, aviation, economic development, tourism and passenger terminal activities support nearly 194,000 jobs in the Puget Sound region and are vital to the continuing economic health of the region and the State. The Duwamish and Interbay industrial areas in Seattle are served by the SR 99 corridor and constitute a significant portion of Seattle’s maritime and industrial sector which accounts for an estimated \$28.5 billion in annual revenue city-wide. Ultimately, such infrastructure investments will help us achieve growth in trade and jobs and increase our region’s competitiveness in global markets.

The Port has actively participated in the design and environmental reviews for the AWVSRP. The Port, the State, the City of Seattle and King County will continue to work collaboratively toward the successful completion of the AWVSR Program. Port staff will participate in review and approval of key design elements to ensure adequate connection to freight and cruise facilities, as well as in planning for construction mitigation and maintenance of traffic.

Motion

The SEATTLE PORT COMMISSION hereby directs and authorizes the Port's Chief Executive Officer to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the State of Washington in a form substantially as attached Exhibit A, affirming Port participation of not to exceed \$300 million in the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program, if, and to the extent that, the Port of Seattle Commission authorizes funds for these purposes.