

Lisa Clausen

From: Summerhays, Diane [Summerhays.D@portseattle.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Beckett, Kurt; Bernie Dorsey - Highline Public Schools; Bev Willison -- City of Tukwila; Sheckler, Bob - City of Des Moines; Marshall, Brenda; Brian Wilson - City of Federal Way; Brooke Lindquist -- City of Federal Way; Gallagher, Clare; Summerhays, Diane; Doug Schulze - Normandy Park; Leavitt, Elizabeth; George Hadley -- City of Normandy Park; Fain, Geraldine - Highline School District; Gordon Shaw; May, Jan - Highline School District; Janet Stallman; Mullet, Steve - City of Tukwila; Joan Hernandez - City of Tukwila; Creighton, John; Kimberly Matej -- City of Tukwila; Sulman, Kym; Ellis, Lesa - City of SeaTac; Kochmar, Linda - City of Federal Way; Lisa Clausen; Hernandez, Marcela; Milanese, Marco; Reis, Mark; Kennedy, Mary Gin; Mary Linder -- City of Normandy Park; Mike Martin; Holland, Robert; Rose Clark; McEvoy, Shawn - City of Normandy Park; Lancaster, Steve - Planning Dir. (Tukwila); Bowman, Sue - City of Des Moines; Anderson, Terry - City of SeaTac Council Member; Todd Cutts - City of SeaTac; Piasecki, Tony - City Manager (Des Moines); Wanda Skoog -- Highline Public Schools
Cc: del Fierro, Sally
Subject: Alaskan Way Viaduct Agreement
Attachments: 7c_MOA_FINAL_VERSION submitted to Commission.docx

Dear Highline Forum Members:

This is to give you a "heads up" on an important regional transportation agreement that is being considered between the Port and Washington State regarding the replacement for the Alaskan Way Viaduct. Although the Viaduct is not in our collective backyard, its replacement is a critical part of our regional infrastructure, and we would like to keep you informed and involved in the Port's activity on this issue.

As a key stakeholder of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement program, your voice is important to the Port of Seattle as the Commission considers entering into an agreement with the State of Washington to support this critical transportation connection. The Port's international trade, aviation, economic development, tourism and passenger terminal activities are vital to the economic well-being of the region and the state, supporting nearly 194,000 jobs. The Bored Tunnel replacement alternative is a vital issue for the Port.

The State and the Port are both committed to improving transportation access to and through the waterfront, ensuring connectivity between the Interbay, Ballard and Duwamish industrial areas and Sea-Tac Airport, minimizing construction disruption, and increasing opportunities for the public and freight to access the central waterfront and our working waterfronts.

Attached is a draft copy of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that outlines the parties' 1) General Principles; 2) Responsibilities; and 3) Funding. **The Port Commission is**

CFTR: 02/08/10

asking for your input before they make a decision on the MOA . There are several ways in which you can comment over the next two weeks:

- **E-mail** comments to: <mailto:viaduct@portseattle.org>
- **Mail** comments must be received by close of business Monday, 2/8. Mail to:
Viaduct MOA Comments
Attn: Christine Lee, Regional Transportation
PO Box 1209
Seattle, WA 98111
- **Public testimony** can be provided at two upcoming Commission meetings:
 - Tuesday, February 2, 1:00 pm, Aviation High School, 615 S. 200th St., Des Moines
 - Tuesday, February 9, 1:00 pm, Port Headquarters, Pier 69, 2711 Alaskan Way

The Port Commission is expected to make a decision on the MOA, following public comments, at their February 9 meeting.

Thank you for your involvement in the Viaduct Replacement issue. We hope you'll take this opportunity to share your views with the Commission on the draft MOA and the Port's participation. If you have any questions, please contact:

- Mike Merritt, Local Government Relations, merritt.m@portseattle.org, 206-787-3411
- Geri Poor, Regional Transportation, poor.g@portseattle.org, 206-787-3778

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
NO. GCA 4444
ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT AND
SEAWALL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
BORED TUNNEL ALTERNATIVE

This agreement (“Agreement”) for the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program (“AWVSRP”) is made and entered into between the State of Washington (“State”) and the Port of Seattle (“Port”), collectively the “Parties” and individually the “Party.”

WHEREAS, in the 1950s, the City of Seattle (“City”) and the Washington State Department of Transportation jointly designed and built the Alaskan Way Viaduct (“Viaduct”) to accommodate passenger and freight mobility into the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, 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 more than 120,000 jobs and an estimated \$28.5 billion in annual revenue city-wide; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 the Nisqually earthquake damaged the Viaduct and Seawall; and

WHEREAS, the Viaduct and Seawall are at risk of sudden and catastrophic failure in an earthquake and are nearing the end of their useful lives; and

WHEREAS, various studies conducted have determined that it is not feasible to upgrade the existing Viaduct structure to modern transportation standards, and a failure to replace the Viaduct capacity would result in unacceptable congestion for freight and other traffic within the harbor and industrial areas; and

WHEREAS, in March 2007, the Washington State Governor, the King County Executive, and the Mayor of Seattle pledged to advance a series of key SR 99 projects (Moving Forward Projects) that will facilitate the removal and/or repair of key portions of SR 99, which are Yesler Way Vicinity Stabilization Project, Electrical Line Relocation, Battery Street Tunnel Fire and Life Safety Upgrades, SR 99 Lenora to Battery Street Tunnel Improvements, the SR 99 South Holgate Street to South King Street Viaduct Replacement Project, and Transit Enhancements and Other Improvements; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the State and its partners agreed to guiding principles for replacing the Viaduct: improve public safety; provide efficient movement of people and goods now and in the future; maintain or improve downtown Seattle, regional, Port and state economies; enhance Seattle’s waterfront, downtown and adjacent neighborhoods as a place for people; create solutions that are fiscally responsible; and improve the health of the environment; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the State and its partners considered public comment from 16 meetings of a stakeholder advisory committee made up of representatives from business, labor, environmental, and neighborhood interests and more than one thousand public comments collected during quarterly public meetings; and more than 50 community briefings; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2008 the Port of Seattle Commission (Port Commission) cited the advantages of a sub-surface option and approved a motion calling for further study of a sub-surface option coupled with surface and transit improvements; and

WHEREAS, in January 2009, the Governor of Washington state, the Mayor of Seattle and the King County Executive jointly recommended replacing the Viaduct with a bored tunnel beneath downtown Seattle in conjunction with improvements in surface streets and transit service, and Port of Seattle CEO, Tay Yoshitani, endorsed the deep-bore tunnel concept; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature passed ESSB 5768 and the Governor signed the bill into law designating and funding the Bored Tunnel Program as the replacement for the Viaduct; and

WHEREAS, in October 2009, the City and the State entered into a Memorandum of Agreement agreeing to principles to proceed with the AWVSRP; and

WHEREAS, the State and the Port are committed to a replacement for the Viaduct that will improve transportation access to and through the waterfront, including access for over eight million annual ferry riders, ensure connectivity between the Interbay, Ballard and Duwamish industrial areas and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, including a corridor for oversized vehicles, 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; and

WHEREAS the Port's international trade, aviation, economic development, tourism and passenger terminal activities are vital to the economic growth of the region and the state, supporting nearly 194,000 jobs in the region, and the State and the Port support infrastructure improvements necessary to achieve growth in trade and jobs and increase our region's competitiveness in global markets; and

WHEREAS 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 international and domestic cargo through the Port each year; and

WHEREAS the improvements to the surface street system in the vicinity of the corridor segment from S. Holgate Street to King Street are designed to increase access to Terminal 46 and other port waterfront facilities ; and

WHEREAS the Port is funding projects that are part of or complement the AWVSRP and which will provide capacity for future growth and improved safety, including the East Marginal Way Overpass, Spokane Street widening, Duwamish Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) and the SR 519 South Seattle Intermodal Access Project Phase 2; and

WHEREAS, the parties recognize the uniqueness of the City's Mercer Corridor West Project (Mercer Corridor West) in providing access for freight, cruise buses and public transit, and the need to sustain north-south mobility in the period following completion of the tunnel and during construction of waterfront street improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the following principles to proceed with the AWVSRP:

I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

- A. The Port supports the proposed AWVSRP 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.
- B. The Port recognizes the economic importance of an efficient SR 99 roadway network with complementary system improvements for the effective movement of freight and goods locally, nationally and internationally.
- C. The Port and State will continue to work collaboratively toward the successful completion of the AWVSRP.
- D. Complementary system upgrades to the transportation system will be completed, including SR 519, Spokane Street Widening, Mercer Corridor from Interstate 5 to Elliott Avenue, East Marginal Way Overpass, North Argo Access, Duwamish Intelligent Transportation Systems, Seawall Replacement (or rehabilitation), and transit enhancements.
- E. The State and the Port will work together to review funding plans by the City and King County for their implementation the aforementioned complementary elements of the AWVSRP.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. STATE:

1. The State shall endeavor to open the bored tunnel for operation by the end of 2015.
2. The AWVSRP will be designed to provide functionality equal to or better than what is available today to facilitate efficient movement of freight and other traffic on the west side corridors of the Seattle transportation system from the Duwamish neighborhood to Ballard-Interbay and protect access to fishing, cruise and other Port facilities.

3. The design of the north and south portals and their connection to the street system shall be designed to accommodate freight movements and provide access for buses serving the port's cruise facilities. The State will coordinate with the Port prior to making any changes to the design elements reviewed by the Port under II B below.
4. The State shall work to minimize and mitigate its construction impacts on Port activities, customers and tenants, and will coordinate with the Port and its tenants to ensure productive operations during construction.

B. PORT:

1. Port staff shall participate in timely review and comment of the State's design elements of the tunnel and north and south portals and the Central Waterfront surface street to ensure adequate connection to freight and cruise facilities
2. Port staff shall participate in the State's planning for construction mitigation and maintenance of traffic.

III. FUNDING:

A. STATE:

As defined by ESSB 5768, the total state contribution for AWVSRP is \$2.4 billion in state funds and \$400 million in toll revenue for a total state contribution of \$2.8 billion toward the following state program elements:

1. The proposed bored tunnel from north of S. Royal Brougham Way to Harrison Street; and
2. Surface street connection from S. King Street along Alaskan Way to Elliott and Western avenues, ending at Battery Street, including replacement of the Marion Street pedestrian overpass; viaduct removal; Battery Street Tunnel decommissioning; and
3. Completion of the Moving Forward Projects; and
4. Central Waterfront Construction Mitigation.

B. PORT:

To the extent feasible and authorized by the Port Commission, the Port shall fund or procure funding within the life of the project not to exceed \$300 million toward the state's program elements, except as described in Section 4 below:

1. Funding must be for elements that will improve transportation access to and through the waterfront; ensure connectivity for freight and cruise-related vehicles between Interbay, Ballard and Duwamish industrial areas, Interstate 5 and Interstate 90 and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport; provide access for port cargo, fishing and cruise facilities; minimize construction disruption; and increase opportunities for the public and freight to access the shoreline and waterfront.
2. The Port will take steps to obtain funding as described herein while retaining at all times the strategic financial capability to meet its overall public obligations: maintaining current assets; responding to emerging customer or market demands; continuing significant environmental remediation and

- restoration projects; and maintaining sufficient transportation access in and around its facilities.
3. The Port and State acknowledge that contributions will be made during the life of the AWVSRP but no funds are being authorized by the Port Commission upon approval of this Agreement. The Parties intend to request authorization from the Port Commission for a portion of the Port's contribution to AWVSRP as early as possible in 2010.
 4. The sum of \$25 million will be counted toward the Port's \$300 million contribution to the AWVSRP as follows:
 - a. Up to \$19 million for existing or recently completed Port funding commitments on transportation projects related to the SR 99 system (such as the East Marginal Way Overpass, SR 519 Phase 2, the Spokane Street Viaduct, and the Duwamish ITS).
 - b. The remaining \$6 million will be allocated to those projects complementary to the AWVSRP, such as Mercer Corridor West, as negotiated by the Parties. Allocation of the \$6 million under this subsection will be based upon valid data and traffic analysis agreed to by the Parties.
 5. A funding plan describing the specific timing and amounts of the Port's contribution over the life of the AWVSRP will be developed by the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the last day and year written below.

PORT OF SEATTLE

By: _____

Print: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

STATE OF WASHINGTON

By: _____

Print: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By (print)

Signature
Assistant Attorney General

Date: _____

