



CITY OF KIRKLAND

City Attorney's Office

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3030

www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Robin S. Jenkinson, City Attorney

Date: July 24, 2007

Subject: Setting Public Hearing to Receive Public Comment on the Regional Roads and Transit System Ballot Proposition

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council pass the attached resolution setting September 4, 2007, as the date for a hearing to receive public comment on the Regional Roads and Transit System proposition which will be on the ballot at the November 6, 2007, general election.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

The attached resolution will set a hearing to give the public an opportunity to comment before the City Council considers taking a formal position on the Sound Transit and Regional Transit Investment District (RTID) ballot proposition for a Regional Roads and Transit System.

Under RCW 42.17.130, the City Council may pass a resolution supporting or opposing a ballot proposition so long as (a) any required notice of the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition and (b) members of the City Council and public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of any opposing view. A ballot proposition number has not yet been assigned by King County Elections, but will be in advance of the September 4, 2007, public hearing. In Section 2 of the attached Resolution, the City Council directs the City Clerk to provide the required notice.

The September 4, 2007, Council packet will include a resolution expressing the City Council's support for the Regional Roads and Transit System proposition. The attached memorandum from the Public Works Department provides information about the projects to be funded by the Regional Roads and Transit System ballot proposition.

Please let me know if you have any questions.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager

From: Daryl Grigsby, Public Works Director

Date: July 25, 2007

Subject: Regional Roads & Transit System ballot proposition

The Roads & Transit package would give our region the most significant transportation improvements in nearly 50 years. It will build on projects currently underway to make a difference for everyone who lives and works in the region, whether they drive a car or truck or take transit. The *Blueprint for Progress* proposes to fund the road improvements through a one-tenth of one percent sales tax and a license fee of eight-tenths of one percent of the value of a vehicle. Sound Transit improvements will be funded through five-tenths of one percent of sales tax. If voters approve this measure, the typical household would pay an additional sales tax of \$150 a year and the owner of a vehicle valued at \$10,000 would pay an additional \$80. New tax revenues generated during the 20 year investment period (nominal dollars) would amount to \$19.10 billion (Sound Transit \$11.6 billion RTID \$7.5 billion).

The transit improvements will:

- **Add 50 miles of light rail**, building on the 19-mile system Sound Transit will open in 2009 to Sea-Tac Airport and in 2016 to the UW.
- **Extend light rail** north from the UW to Lynnwood and 164th Street SW, south from Sea-Tac Airport to the Tacoma Dome, and east from Seattle to Microsoft/Overlake via Bellevue.
- **Provide fast, frequent, and reliable service**—no matter how bad traffic is—between major housing and job centers.
- **Move thousands more people** through the region's most congested corridors, taking cars off the road.
- **Provide reliable light-rail service across the region**, with trains running 20 hours a day and departing every few minutes during peak times.
- **Enhance bus service and commuter rail** to serve tens of thousands at rush hour.
- **Buy property and develop plans to expand light rail to Redmond Town Center** if funding is available.
- **Conduct planning studies to prepare for extending light rail to Everett** in the next phase.

The road improvements will:

- **Increase mobility** by improving interchanges at chokepoints on I-5 between Everett and Tacoma, and on I-405 between Bellevue and Tukwila.
- **Address serious congestion** on US 2 Trestle, SR 522, SR 9, SR 167 and SR 162 by widening lanes and adding safety improvements.
- **Provide additional capacity** on a new SR 520 Evergreen Floating Bridge by adding HOV lanes, bicycle lanes and shoulders in each direction.
- **Increase traffic flows** by improving the SR 167/I-405 interchange and by providing a direct exit from the I-5 HOV lanes to the busway serving downtown Seattle.
- **Improve truck and freight mobility** by building new connections between I-5 and SR 509 and between SR167 and the Port of Tacoma.

■ **Mitigate construction disruption** by building more Park and Ride lots and increasing transit services, including vanpools and bus service.

■ **Improve safety and provide more transportation choices** by building overpasses, sidewalks and bicycle lanes on major highways across the three-county region.

The proposed Roads and Transit plan is intended to improve the flow of traffic at major chokepoints in the region, increase capacity for drivers as well as bicyclists and pedestrians. If approved by voters, this plan would build a 21st century transportation system for the Puget Sound region. For more information please visit WWW.RTID.ORG.

The most critical elements related to the City of Kirkland include the improvements on SR 520, although it is important to note this does not fully fund that project. In addition, the 1-405, the SR 522 improvements, and indirectly, the East Side rail connections could benefit Kirkland residents and commuters.

RESOLUTION R-4661

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE SOUND TRANSIT AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT DISTRICT (RTID) NOVEMBER 6, 2007, GENERAL ELECTION REGIONAL ROADS AND TRANSIT SYSTEM BALLOT PROPOSITION.

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2007, voters in the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) and Sound Transit districts will vote on the Regional Roads and Transit System ballot proposition; and

WHEREAS, as provided in RCW 42.17.130, the Kirkland City Council wishes to receive comment from members of the public who wish to speak either in support of or in opposition to the Regional Roads and Transit System ballot proposition;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. That a public hearing will be held to receive comments from members of the public who wish to speak either in support of or in opposition to the Regional Roads and Transit System ballot proposition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Section 2. That the City Clerk is directed to give notice complying with RCW 42.17.130 of said public hearing to be held before the Kirkland City Council in the Kirkland City Hall, 123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, on September 4, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this ____ day of _____, 2007.

Signed in authentication thereof this ____ day of _____, 2007.

MAYOR

Attest:

City Clerk