

RESOLUTION NO. 1656

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
FIFE, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, EXPRESSING  
STRONG SUPPORT FOR A 2015 TRANSPORTATION  
REVENUE-AND-REFORM PACKAGE

WHEREAS, a healthy transportation system is a critical foundation of our state and local economies and our quality of life, as well as our global position as the nation's most trade-dependent state; and

WHEREAS, Washington State's transportation system is suffering from disrepair, with a backlog of maintenance and preservation needs, and data showing that the hours of congestion and delay on critical freeway corridors are getting significantly worse. According to the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT's) 2014 Congestion Report, the 10-mile evening commute on Interstate 5 from Federal Way through Fife to Tacoma that should ideally take 12 minutes instead averaged twice that long (24 minutes) in 2013; and

WHEREAS, failing roads and bridges, congested highway corridors, and bottlenecked interchanges undermine the mobility of vehicles, buses, and freight haulers to move people and goods; and

WHEREAS, in early 2012, the Connecting Washington Task Force released a report identifying \$50 billion in unfunded transportation needs and recommending an investment in \$21 billion in funding during the next 10 years for maintenance, preservation, and strategic investments; and

WHEREAS, through the passage of **ESSB 5987** and **ESSB 5988**, the Washington State Senate has approved a 16-year, \$14 billion package that makes a very good down-payment on transportation package investments. The Senate-approved package also includes eight different reform bills to help ensure the state designs, permits, and builds transportation projects in the most efficient way possible; and

WHEREAS, the package provides critical funding for key highway corridor projects throughout the state and specifically for Fife and Pierce County, most notably in ensuring a 4-lane extension and completion of SR 167 from Puyallup through Fife and into the Port of Tacoma; and

WHEREAS, the transportation package also provides a direct distribution of \$375 million over 16 years for Fife and other cities and counties throughout the state to maintain local roadways and transportation systems; and

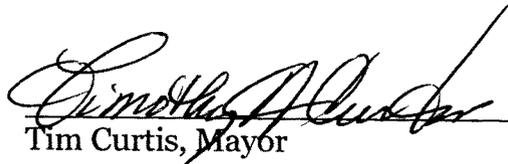
WHEREAS, the package also includes local transportation financing options that will better allow cities and counties to address their backlog of mobility and maintenance needs; and

WHEREAS, the transportation package also invests in grant programs vital to cities and counties, including the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB), "Complete Streets," Safe Routes to Schools, and Bicycle-Pedestrian Safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Fife does hereby resolve as follows:

1. The Fife City Council takes an official position in strong support of a comprehensive and balanced transportation investment package, including direct funding, grant funding, and financing options for local governments.
2. The Fife City Council urges that in the refinements to a transportation package by the House and that in House-Senate negotiations, the Legislature retain full and front-loaded funding for the completion of SR 167 from Puyallup through Fife and into the Port of Tacoma and if possible add funding for Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the Port of Tacoma Road interchange improvements.
3. The Fife City Council also urges that in the continued negotiations, the Legislature refrain from sales tax exemptions that have negative revenue implications for cities and counties, and to utilize a percentage of the gas tax for direct distributions to cities and counties.
4. The Fife City Council urges the Legislature and the Governor to enact and sign into law a 2015 transportation revenue-and-reform package.
5. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon passage.

ADOPTED by the City Council at an open public meeting held on the 24th day of March, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Curtis, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Etgen, City Clerk