

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REPLACEMENT
OF THE INTERSTATE 5 BRIDGE
OVER THE COLUMBIA RIVER**

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature adopted RCW 43.157.010 in 1997 which provides that certain projects and investments merit special designation and treatment by government bodies as government projects and investments of statewide significance; and

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned legislation identifies “border-crossing projects involving both private and public investments carried out in conjunction with adjacent states or provinces” as qualifying for this special designation; and

WHEREAS, such designation is designed to “expedite the development of projects of statewide significance” and local governments having comprehensive plans may “develop a process to expedite the review, approval, permitting and completion of projects of statewide significance”; and

WHEREAS, the Interstate 5 Bridge over the Columbia River qualifies for such designation; and

WHEREAS, border-crossing projects that involve both private and public investments with adjacent states such as the State of Oregon and local industries and the employees of those industries rely directly on the Interstate 5 Bridge; and

WHEREAS, our constituency is spending more time in traffic, impacting workers, businesses, emergency responders and freight mobility; and

WHEREAS, traffic congestion due to the Interstate 5 Bridge is negatively impacting West Coast freight mobility, the economies of Southwest Washington and the Portland metropolitan area, and the economy of the U.S. West Coast generally; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature adopted an amendment to the 2015 biennial budget which prohibited dedicating staff of the Washington State Department of Transportation to converse with their counterparts in the Oregon State Department of Transportation, which could lead to a resolution for these issues caused by the Interstate 5 Bridge;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield support efforts by the Washington State Legislature to designate replacement of the Interstate 5 Bridge(s) as a project of statewide significance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield support the Washington State Legislature in taking steps to allow the Washington State Department of Transportation to dedicate resources to collaborate with the Oregon State Department of Transportation in efforts to resolve this border crossing issue;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield support state and federal legislators' efforts to appropriate or allow for transfer funding to initiate planning, engineering and construction of the Interstate 5 Bridge(s) replacement and related interchange improvements within the Interstate 5 corridor because of its importance to the economies of Washington, Oregon, the West Coast and the United States.

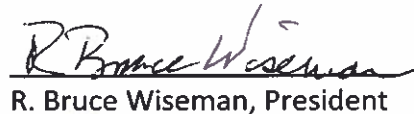
PORT OF CAMAS-WASHOUGAL
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

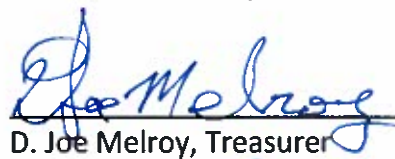

John Spencer, President

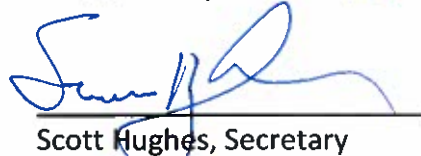

Bill Ward, Vice President

February 21, 2017
Date

PORT OF RIDGEFIELD
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


R. Bruce Wiseman, President


D. Joe Melroy, Treasurer

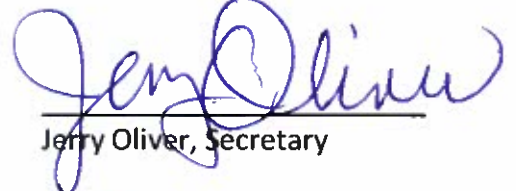

Scott Hughes, Secretary

February 14, 2017
Date

PORT OF VANCOUVER USA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Brian Wolfe, President


Eric LaBrant, Vice President


Jerry Oliver, Secretary

February 14, 2017
Date