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

A RESOLUTION supporting the replacement of the Interstate 5 Bridge between the State of Washington and State of Oregon, guided by the principles herein.

WHEREAS, the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield rely on the Interstate 5 Bridge to move freight and support the economic vitality of our region, and have long supported reinitiating the process for replacing the Interstate 5 Bridge;

WHEREAS, the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield in February 2017 passed a joint resolution supporting efforts by the Washington State Legislature to renew bi-state discussions on replacement of the Interstate 5 Bridge.

WHEREAS, Interstate 5 is a corridor of national significance that serves the entire U.S. West Coast, as well as international commerce with Canada, Mexico and all Pacific Rim countries that access U.S. West Coast seaports; and

WHEREAS, the Interstate 5 Bridge is a key economic connector to our region's ports and much of the industrial land in the Vancouver-Portland Metropolitan Region; and

WHEREAS, Interstate 5 between Vancouver, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, experiences some of the most severe congestion along the entire length of the Interstate 5 corridor, especially during the daily commuting periods, impacting businesses and hindering the efficient movement of people and freight; and

WHEREAS, increased traffic congestion is affecting travel time reliability for workers and emergency responders; and

WHEREAS, high-capacity transit does not currently connect Vancouver and Portland, and high-capacity transit with a dedicated guideway would provide greatly improved transit service with better schedule reliability; and

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WHEREAS, frequent crashes on the corridor and the bridge affect public safety; and

WHEREAS, the existing Interstate 5 Bridge is functionally obsolete and does not meet current seismic standards; and

WHEREAS, replacement of the Interstate 5 Bridge is needed to support critical trade routes, address congestion, provide transportation choices and improve safety.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield support efforts to begin a new project development process for an Interstate 5 Bridge replacement, consisting of a replacement bridge and high-capacity transit with a dedicated guideway;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield support a multi-modal approach to support the region's transportation needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ports of Vancouver, Camas-Washougal and Ridgefield urge Governor Jay Insiee and the Washington State Legislature to provide adequate funding to the Washington State Department of Transportation to materially advance project development for an Interstate 5 Bridge replacement.

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