

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENDORSING) RESOLUTION NO. 08-3921
REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR STATE)
TRANSPORTATION FUNDING) Introduced by Councilor Rex Burkholder
LEGISLATION)

WHEREAS, an efficient and adequately funded transportation system is critical to ensuring a healthy economy and livable communities throughout the state of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the Portland metropolitan region has become a national model for how strategic transportation investments combined with regional land use planning can improve community livability and environmental quality while supporting a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, despite the important investments that have been made possible since 2001 by three Oregon Transportation Improvement Acts and two "ConnectOregon" multimodal packages, the state and the Portland region remain several billion dollars short of what is needed to adequately address essential transportation needs over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, investments in maintaining and expanding transportation facilities in the Portland region are especially critical in light of the fact that the region's population is expected to grow by approximately one million people by 2030; and

WHEREAS, freight volumes are expected to increase even more quickly than population over that same time period; and

WHEREAS, additional funding to address these transportation needs will create or sustain thousands of jobs and help stimulate the economy of the region and the state; and

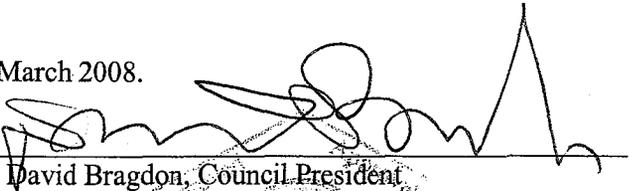
WHEREAS, it is critical that we plan and fund the region's transportation system in such a way as to confront the challenge posed by global climate change; and

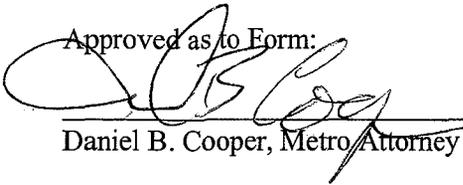
WHEREAS, it is in the interest of local governments inside Metro to jointly seek additional transportation funding from the 2009 Oregon Legislature; and

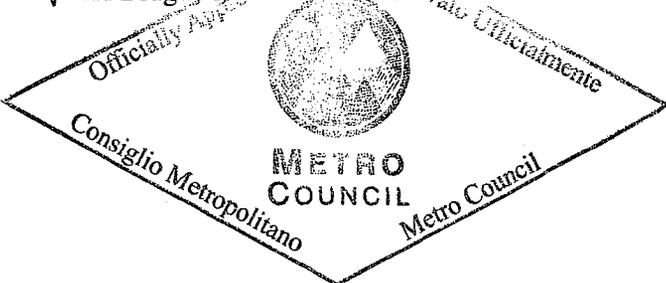
WHEREAS, Governor Kulongoski and legislative leaders have declared that passage of a transportation funding package will be a top legislative priority in 2009; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) endorse a set of principles to guide the region's participation in the development of a state legislative funding proposal to be considered by the 2009 Oregon Legislature, as described in Exhibit A of this resolution, entitled "Metropolitan Region Principles for Legislative Transportation Funding Package in 2009".

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 13th day of March 2008.


David Bragdon, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney



Metropolitan Region Principles For a Legislative Transportation Funding Package in 2009

We, the local governments of the Portland Metropolitan Region, believe:

The mounting inadequacy of funding for modernization and maintenance of Oregon's transportation system:

- Threatens the state's economy.
- Harms the long term livability of our communities.
- Undermines public safety.
- Places the long term value of previous investments at risk.
- Contributes to global climate change and energy insecurity.

To solve this transportation funding crisis, and to guide critical decisions on transportation, we, the undersigned, support the following principles:

MAKE STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

- Adopt a significant, coordinated, comprehensive, long-term transportation funding package that addresses the needs of the entire state through investments at the state, regional, and local levels.
- Ensure that any transportation funding package is responsive to the specific needs of Oregon's metropolitan areas.
- Recognize the mutually dependent relationship between our land use and transportation systems, and between these systems and the state's economic competitiveness.
- Invest transportation revenues in a multi-modal program that provides statewide economic benefits and produces a high return on investment.
- Allocate sufficient funds to address critical safety needs in communities statewide, and to support the maintenance and preservation of new and existing transportation facilities.

REINFORCE OREGON'S LIVABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

- Design transportation investment programs to reward practices that best enhance the State's goals with respect to public health and safety, livability, global climate change, economic prosperity and environmental stewardship.

INVEST IN ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

- Invest in key projects that strengthen freight movement, improve system reliability and safety, and expand access and transit to traditional downtowns and other centers of commerce.

MAINTAIN FLEXIBILITY AND EQUITY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Allow and encourage innovative approaches and funding mechanisms to meet the differing needs of Oregon's state, regional, and local transportation systems.
- Facilitate or expand funding authorities available to local and regional governments and eschew unfunded mandates.
- Address state and local transportation needs through the distribution formula providing 50% to the state, 30% to counties, and 20% to cities, and maximize local flexibility as to how these funds may be used.