

A Resolution Opposing Washington State Initiative 976

WHEREAS the cities, counties, and state strive to maintain and continuously improve its transportation infrastructure for the benefit of its residents and employers; and

WHEREAS the cities, counties, and state have long been committed to keeping its streets in top condition through a robust street overlay program; and

WHEREAS Washington residents have made a long-term investment in Sound Transit, which will provide fast, convenient, and reliable transit for residents and workers to points throughout the Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS Sound Transit would lose approximately \$7 billion for Sound Transit 3 projects if I-976 were to pass, which would put delivery of light rail to Everett at extremely grave risk; and

WHEREAS passage of I-976 would result in a nearly \$2 billion loss of six years in State transportation funding for highways, the Washington State Patrol and other critical investments, impacting San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties and every corner of the state; and

WHEREAS I-976 would strip more than \$1.4 billion over six years from the State's Multimodal Account; and

WHEREAS I-976 would jeopardize \$100 million in biennial funding for State Regional Mobility Grants, which also help fund sidewalks, bike infrastructure, Safe Routes to School projects and projects that benefit seniors and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS the 40th LD Democrats recognize that Initiative 976 would have extremely negative impacts on City, County and State transportation infrastructure; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 40th LD Democrats oppose Initiative 976, which will be on the statewide ballot in November 2019, as it would cause extreme harm to the development and maintenance of our transportation infrastructure, thereby jeopardizing economic growth and quality of life throughout the region.

Meeting Passed: 40th LD General Meeting, San Juan Island Grange

Date Passed: October 6, 2019

40th LD Chair: Trevor Smith