



Hon. Christine Gregoire, Governor
Olympia, WA 98504

April 22, 2009



Hon. Lisa Brown, Senate Majority Leader
Olympia, WA 98504

Hon. Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House
Olympia, WA 98504



RE: SB 5768, the Bored Tunnel Hybrid Solution

Dear Governor Gregoire, Senate Majority Leader Brown and Speaker Chopp,

We support the Bored Tunnel Hybrid solution to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct, and we would like to **thank you and your colleagues for your leadership in moving this solution forward through ESSB 5768**. This solution will serve everyone in Washington state. The Alaskan Way Viaduct corridor is a vital transportation and economic link to communities south, north and east of Seattle, to workers and companies of all sizes and their suppliers, and to towns and cities across the state who depend on the Port of Seattle to get their goods to and from market.

- The Bored Tunnel Hybrid solution **preserves regional capacity** on I-5 and SR 99 for freight and commerce. The four lanes of the tunnel, along with the new waterfront boulevard, will accommodate as many vehicles as the Viaduct accommodates today, and it allows for growth.
- The Bored Tunnel Hybrid solution also **avoids the enormous potential negative impact of viaduct-related construction activity on the regional economy**.
- The Bored Tunnel Hybrid solution is **very safe in any disaster situation**. It will have improved lane and shoulder widths, modern fire protection safety equipment and it will be monitored 24 hours a day, similar to the I-90 tunnel.
- Challenges remain—and the State and City have agreed to include stakeholders as they go forward on the tunnel design—but the Bored Tunnel Hybrid solution is a **viable, achievable project that makes financial sense, offers by far the greatest value and helps keep the regional economy moving** on one of the state's most important transportation arteries.

It is time for us all to advance this consensus decision forward and leave the chance and risk for further delay and political deadlock behind. **We urge you to advance the Bored Tunnel Hybrid solution through ESSB 5768**, and we look forward to supporting the effort to carry our new consensus forward into final design and construction.

Sincerely,

Yakima Valley Growers and Shippers Association
Washington Building Construction Trades, AFL-CIO
Ivar's
Laborers International
Manufacturing Industrial Council

West Seattle Chamber of Commerce
Pacific NW Regional Council of Carpenters
Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association
Associated General Contractors of Washington
CityIce Cold Storage, Ballard/Interbay

Cc: Senator **Mary Margaret Haugen**
Representative **Judy Clibborn**
Entire **Washington State Legislature**
King County Executive **Ron Sims**
Seattle Mayor **Greg Nickels**
King County Councilmbr. **Dow Constantine**
Seattle City Councilmember **Jan Drago**

Secretary of Transportation **Paula Hammond**
Seattle Deputy Mayor **Tim Ceis**
WSDOT Deputy Secretary **David Dye**
KCDOT Director **Harold Taniguchi**
SDOT Director **Grace Crunican**
WSDOT Project Director **Ron Paananen**
SDOT Project Director **Bob Chandler**



west seattle
chamber of commerce



Wenatchee Valley
Traffic Association

