

**Clark County Transportation Alliance**  
**of the Clark County Governmental Affairs Roundtable**  
**2011 - 2012 Washington State Legislative Sessions**  
**Transportation Needs and Solutions**

*Clark County is facing unprecedented transportation infrastructure revenue challenges. A number of new and critical local projects on our State highway and interstate system are pending due to need for state funding. Local transportation needs continue to grow for both new and enhanced facilities and the maintenance of those systems. As the Columbia River Crossing project proceeds significant levels of State funding will be needed. Critical transit and rail/freight improvements are needed. Transportation infrastructure is directly related to economic development, community development and overall quality of life in our region. Meeting these needs will require a unified effort by public and private sector leaders and strong and effective leadership by our local legislative delegation.*

*We ask that our Legislators support the following transportation needs critical to the economic health and job development in Clark County and Southwest Washington in the 2011-12 Legislative Sessions:*

- **Ensure that funding levels and time frames for WSDOT projects in Clark County identified in the Nickel and Partnership packages are maintained.**
- In order to meet current and future unmet needs we ask for your leadership in advancing a new comprehensive revenue package with **significant direct distribution to local governments** and appropriate options to complete the funding of projects identified in the Nickel and Partnership Packages. We respectfully suggest that action on this should happen now. Critical Clark County and SW Washington projects need to be included in any project list associated with any new transportation revenue package. Local legislators should rely heavily upon the Regional Transportation Council for direction of project priorities.
- Provide a **constitutional fix to the existing street utility statute** so this important tool for financing local transportation needs is available to cities.
- The success of the **Columbia River Crossing Project** requires our local legislators to:
  1. Advocate for the Columbia River Crossing Project;
  2. Help secure state funding and passage of any legislation needed to facilitate the project; and
  3. Seek state support for federal "mega-project" or other designation for the project during the next federal transportation funding multi-year reauthorization process.
- **Public transit** is an essential component of Clark County's transportation system. The Clark County Transportation Alliance requests that the State provide direct financial support to ensure that the "expert" review requirements of RCW 81.104 (High Capacity Transit statute) can be completed in a timely manner for the high capacity transit system plan, which must have voter approval.
- Our **ports and rail** system play a vital role in the region's economy. We ask our Legislators to support funding for projects **adding road and rail access, safety and capacity** not included in the Nickel and Partnership packages for freight mobility including rail and road projects at the Ports of Vancouver, Ridgefield and Camas-Washougal and the Clark County-Chelatchie Railroad:
  1. Appropriate funding for the **Port of Vancouver's West Vancouver Freight Access Project**, a project of the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board yielding significant mainline rail capacity, new port rail access, cargo growth and jobs..
  2. Financing to allow incremental upgrades to the 33 mile **Clark County-Chelatchie Prairie Railroad** allowing greater **freight mobility and economic development to be generated** from this county owned asset.
  3. Support continuation of the **Phase II widening of the SR 14 slough bridge** and associated expansion improvements at 27<sup>th</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> streets providing freight improvements for the Port of Camas-Washougal.
  4. Fund the **Pioneer Street Railroad Overpass** connecting SR 501 to the Ridgefield waterfront, improving safety and opening the way for economic development.

***We look forward to working with you during the 2011-12 Legislative Sessions.***

# CLARK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE

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**TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND SOLUTIONS**



## Sponsoring Organizations:

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City of Ridgefield  
City of Vancouver  
City of Washougal  
Clark County  
Clark County Association of Realtors  
Columbia River Economic Development Council

Confluence Project  
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