

Eastside Transportation Association

"Dedicated to improving our quality of life and environment by reducing congestion through increased mobility"

P.O. Box 50621
Bellevue, WA 98015

ETA's Accomplishments for 2012

Our recent efforts continue to be focused on:

1. The defense of the Washington State Constitutional protection of the gas tax afforded by the **18th Amendment** requiring motor fuel taxes to be used for highway purposes, and
2. The defense and promotion of the approved **I-405 Master Plan** to reduce congestion.

Specific tasks of your ETA Board and members in 2012 included:

- ETA contributed extensive technical analysis and support to our legal team as a Plaintiff for the **Freeman v State** lawsuit to prevent WSDOT from transferring the I-90 Center Roadway to Sound Transit for Exclusive Light Rail use. ETA appealed the case directly to the Washington State Supreme Court. The Court has accepted the direct appeal and legal briefings have been exchanged. An oral argument hearing date is expected in the spring of 2013 with a subsequent decision.
- ETA has published three pamphlets on transportation issues impacting the east side of King County:
 - **THE WAR ON CARS** discusses the impact of three large transportation projects that cost \$12 billion and remove travel lanes from the system, plus a discussion on the allocation of tax revenues for transportation between highways and transit.
 - **RAISING REVENUES THE RIGHT WAY** identifies ETA's six highway revenue principles for use in the upcoming transportation revenue enhancement debate.
 - **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HOT LANES** is our 2011 pamphlet on the failure of the HOT lane experiment on SR 167 from both a financial and operational viewpoint.
- ETA's web site has been updated, including adding the three pamphlets on the home page, at www.eastsideta.com.
- The Seattle Times published an OP-ED piece on November 17, 2012 on **We should stop waging a war on cars** written by Bruce Nurse, ETA Board Member.
- ETA's opposition to the proposed **Two-lane HOT Lane** concept for I-405 resulted in the Washington Transportation Commission preparing the **Eastside Corridor Independent Traffic and Revenue Study** by Cambridge Systematics, Inc. The report confirms that significantly worse traffic congestion is expected in the general purpose lanes than today with the two-lane HOT lane concept and projected toll revenue will be in the low range of WSDOT's forecast range and not enough to build the HOT lane infrastructure.
- ETA board members provided ongoing monitoring of Sound Transit's use of East King County **sub-area revenues**.
- Dick Paylor, ETA's Past-President, represented ETA on the **Eastside Transportation Partnership**.
- Other ETA board members represented ETA on the Washington State Good Roads and Transportation (**WSGR&T**) Board, the national American Dream Coalition (**ADC**) Board and the **PSRC Freight Mobility Roundtable**.
- ETA held **monthly meetings** on relevant transportation topics for the East King County community.