

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 2011

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 2011 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. The case was filed in the Kittitas County Superior Court in June 2011, with a hearing set for January 25, 2012.
- ETA's board members testified against the **Two-lane HOT Lane** concept for I-405 at the House and the Senate Transportation Committees during the 2011 Legislative Session. EHB 1382 passed with significant amendments including a Transportation Commission directed study on the impacts of the two lane HOT lane concept.
- ETA's opposition to the proposed **Two-lane HOT Lane** concept for I-405 resulted in the 2011 Legislature authorizing the 'Civil Construction' of an additional lane on I-405 in each direction from Bellevue to Bothell using gas tax revenue while delaying the decision to install the Two-lane HOT Lane electronic infrastructure until further authorization by the Legislature, scheduled for 2012.
- ETA's Research Committee produced **Some Transportation Observations for East King** in May 2011 relating to an alternative to Sound Transit's EastLink project.
- ETA submitted a comment letter to the USDOT on the **Sound Transit EastLink FEIS** in August 2011.
- ETA's Research Committee prepared and in June the Board approved the **STATEMENT OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR FUNDING OF HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS** developed to guide ETA's communication on future highway funding and tolling policies. See <http://www.eastsideta.com/docs/ETA-Guiding-Principles-Transportation-Funding.pdf> for the full text.
- ETA's Board approved an analysis of the SR 167 HOT lanes in August 2011, "**HOT Lanes on SR 167 – A Financial and Operational Failure**". See <http://www.eastsideta.com/docs/HOT-Lanes-SR167-2011-08.pdf> for the full text. A brochure based on this report was published in December 2011.
- ETA's fact-based program on real cost-effective **congestion relief** was presented to several transportation stakeholders.
- ETA board members provided ongoing monitoring of Sound Transit's use of East King County **sub-area revenues**.
- Dick Paylor, ETA's 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.