



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY  
WASHINGTON

BOARD OF CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom Mielke • David Madore • Steve Stuart

Nov. 18, 2013

415 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Dear Ms. Clibborn and Mr. King,

We thank you for your continued work on an equitable state transportation package. The Board of Clark County Commissioners understands this is a difficult task, given competing needs and limited resources. However, we, our constituents, local officials and economic leaders are greatly concerned about the amount of funding allocated for Southwest Washington. While the proposal includes money for a few projects and provides some local transportation shared revenue, Clark County is allocated less than 1 percent of the total transportation package.

This \$41.4 million allocation omits critical infrastructure needs in Southwest Washington. If population were the only criterion for transportation funding allocation, Clark County would receive 6 percent of state dollars. According to a WSDOT report, Clark County received from the state only 88 cents for every dollar paid in gas tax from 2004-2012, which means we have consistently subsidized projects in other counties. Also, Clark County ranked 30<sup>th</sup> out of 39 counties in return per dollar contributed by its residents and eighth out of 12 among counties with populations more than 100,000.

The board has identified infrastructure projects critical to public safety and business development along the Discovery Corridor, an economic development area flanking Interstate 5 north of 179<sup>th</sup> Street. In June, Gov. Inslee recognized the area's Discovery Clean Water Alliance with a Governor's Smart Communities Award for setting the stage for future efficiencies and economic development.

Two major projects in the corridor were excluded from the most recent transportation package, but are in need of funding. Both are vital to economic growth and public safety.

One is **rebuilding the I-5/179<sup>th</sup> Street interchange**. The current interchange, built in the 1960s, does not meet WSDOT standards or traffic volume needs, and is prone to failure during a major earthquake. Killian Pacific, a major regional developer, is ready for a project in the area that could provide 9,000 jobs, but construction is conditional on a new interchange and added capacity.

Second, the **Northeast 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue industrial road and bridge project** would connect segments of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue just west of I-5. Road improvements and a bridge would provide: new access to the Event Center at the Clark County Fairgrounds, Sleep Country Amphitheater and other facilities; better access to development of existing land uses and zoning based on the county's 20-year comprehensive plan; and an assured route for emergency and disaster response. The bridge is estimated to cost \$35 million.

The board also asks the committees to consider funding for the following local projects:

- Interstate 5/Mill Plain-State Route 501 interchange to Port of Vancouver
- Widening State Route 14 from Interstate 205 to 164<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver
- State Route 500 intersections at 42<sup>nd</sup> and 54<sup>th</sup> avenues, Vancouver
- State Route 14 widening/West Slough project and Phase 2 widening from Southeast 6<sup>th</sup> to Southeast 32<sup>nd</sup> streets, Camas and Washougal
- State Route 502/503, right turn lanes, Battle Ground
- Pioneer Street rail overpass, Ridgefield

We strongly recommend the committee consider these critical infrastructure needs to arrive at a more equitable allocation of project funding for Southwest Washington.

Sincerely,



Steve Stuart, Chair

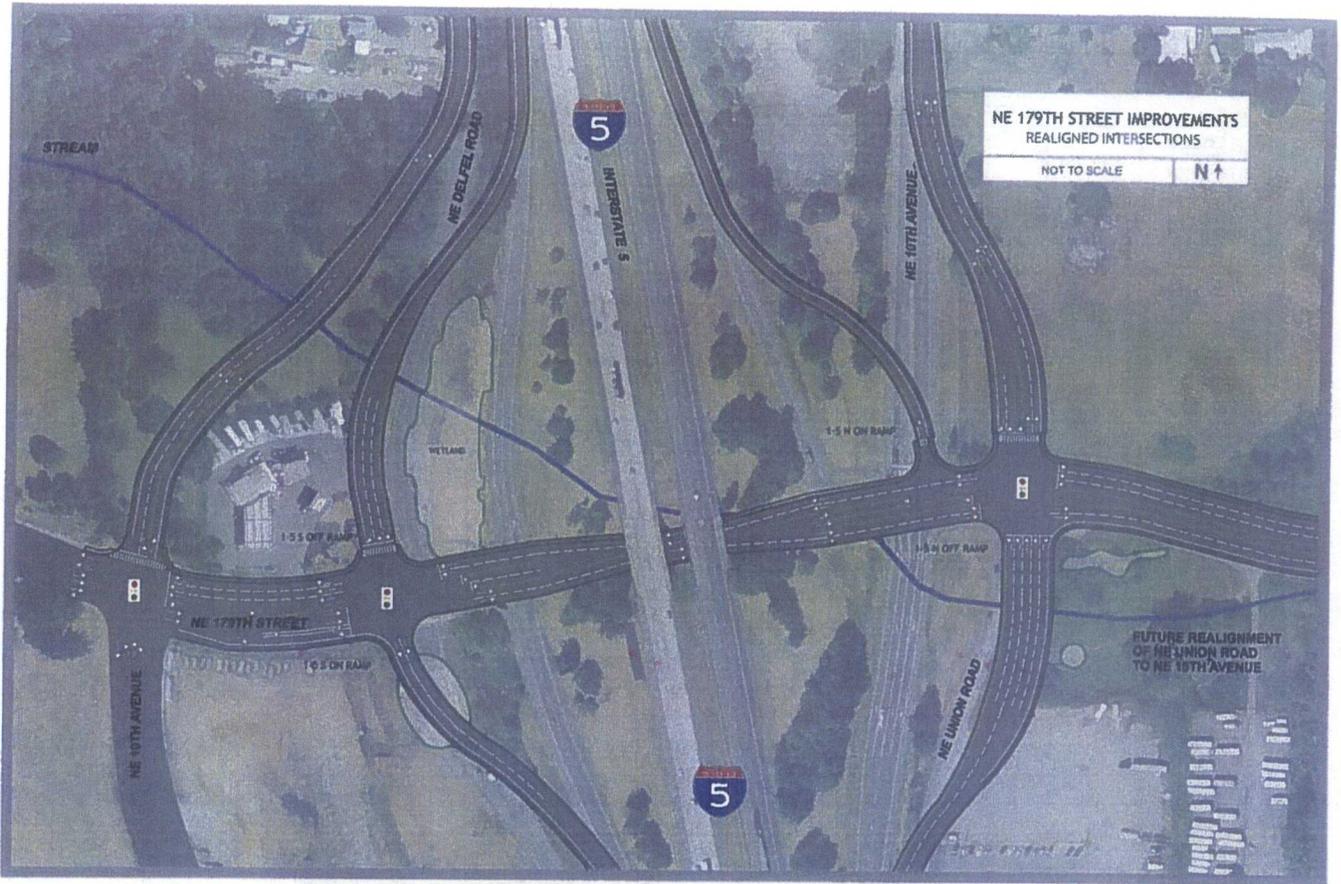


Tom Mielke, Commissioner

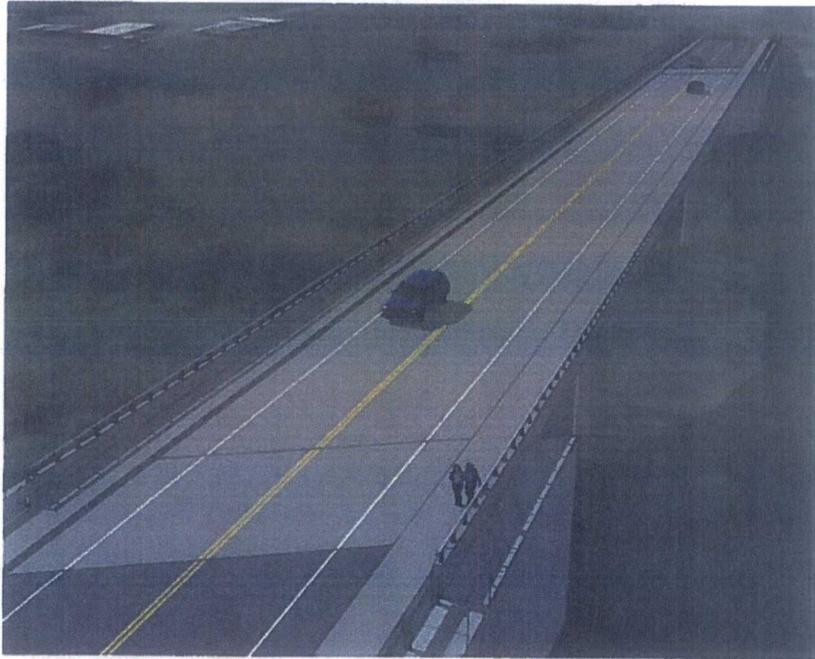


David Madore, Commissioner

SS/TM/DM/ll



Northeast 179<sup>th</sup> Street / Interstate 5 Interchange



Northeast 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridge and roadway improvements



## All Counties in Washington

County	2010 Population	Rate of Return	Rank	Funds Out	Funds In
King County	1,931,249	0.95	25	8,349,870,000	7,958,916,000
Pierce County	795,225	0.99	23	2,904,400,000	2,867,362,000
Snohomish County	713,335	0.96	24	2,542,164,000	2,450,109,000
Spokane County	471,221	0.84	33	1,435,200,000	1,202,563,000
Clark County	425,363	0.88	30	1,382,071,000	1,209,749,000
Thurston County	252,264	0.89	29	777,128,000	692,129,000
Kitsap County	251,133	1	22	1,466,723,000	1,470,524,000
Yakima County	243,231	0.76	34	747,439,000	569,191,000
Whatcom County	201,140	1.08	20	609,224,000	660,135,000
Benton County	175,177	0.68	35	532,749,000	360,457,000
Skagit County	116,901	1.75	11	493,555,000	865,155,000
Cowlitz County	102,410	0.87	32	340,868,000	296,477,000
Grant County	89,120	0.93	28	272,659,000	254,929,000
Island County	78,506	0.94	27	392,134,000	368,480,000
Franklin County	78,163	0.59	39	219,926,000	129,124,000
Lewis County	75,455	1.26	18	270,799,000	341,904,000
Grays Harbor County	72,797	1.63	12	243,747,000	396,940,000
Chelan County	72,453	0.95	26	241,719,000	230,269,000
Clallam County	71,404	0.62	38	223,718,000	139,162,000
Mason County	60,699	0.65	36	188,557,000	121,769,000
Walla Walla County	58,781	1.12	19	227,701,000	256,145,000
Whitman County	44,776	1.27	17	128,117,000	162,432,000
Stevens County	43,531	0.87	31	135,990,000	118,561,000
Okanogan County	41,120	1.05	21	130,764,000	137,789,000
Kittitas County	40,915	1.48	14	262,291,000	388,344,000
Douglas County	38,431	1.27	16	145,948,000	185,506,000
Jefferson County	29,872	2.49	4	234,193,000	582,572,000
Asotin County	21,623	0.63	37	73,166,000	45,821,000
Pacific County	20,920	1.82	10	75,029,000	136,503,000
Klickitat County	20,318	1.5	13	70,315,000	105,634,000
Adams County	18,728	2.02	7	57,096,000	115,502,000
San Juan County	15,769	1.98	8	143,598,000	284,818,000
Pend Oreille County	13,001	1.84	9	42,427,000	77,957,000
Skamania County	11,066	1.28	15	33,030,000	42,177,000
Lincoln County	10,570	3.04	2	34,879,000	106,126,000
Ferry County	7,551	2.52	3	25,874,000	65,309,000
Columbia County	4,078	2.07	6	20,051,000	41,456,000
Wahkiakum County	3,978	2.23	5	13,646,000	30,448,000
Garfield County	2,266	3.6	1	7,821,000	28,142,000

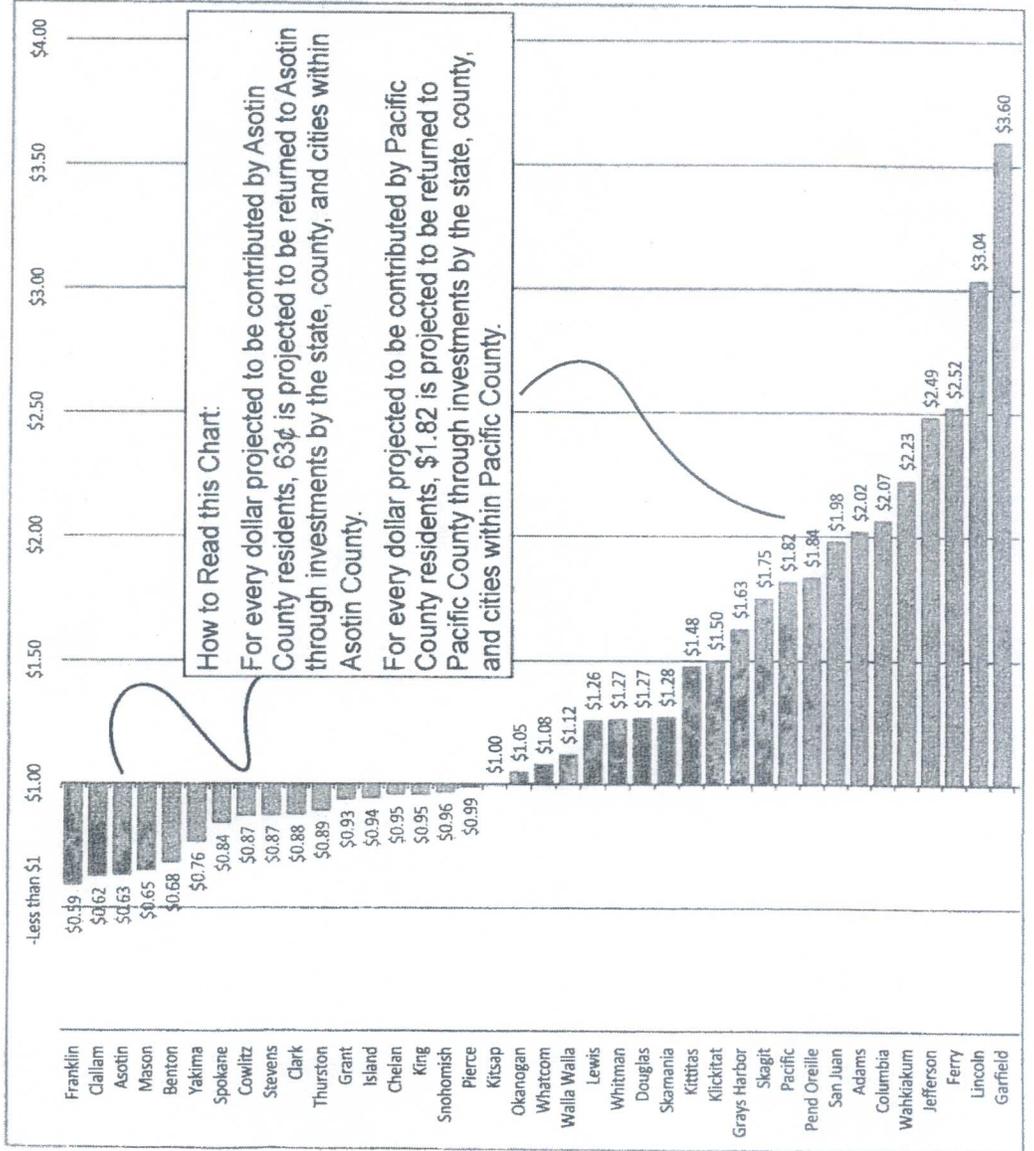
## WA Counties with Population Greater than 100,000 (2010)

County	2010 Population	Rate of Return	Rank	Funds Out	Funds In
Skagit County	116,901	1.75	1	493,555,000	865,155,000
Whatcom County	201,140	1.08	2	609,224,000	660,135,000
Kitsap County	251,133	1	3	1,466,723,000	1,470,524,000
Pierce County	795,225	0.99	4	2,904,400,000	2,867,362,000
Snohomish County	713,335	0.96	5	2,542,164,000	2,450,109,000
King County	1,931,249	0.95	6	8,349,870,000	7,958,916,000
Thurston County	252,264	0.89	7	777,128,000	692,129,000
Clark County	425,363	0.88	8	1,382,071,000	1,209,749,000
Cowlitz County	102,410	0.87	9	340,868,000	296,477,000
Spokane County	471,221	0.84	10	1,435,200,000	1,202,563,000
Yakima County	243,231	0.76	11	747,439,000	569,191,000
Benton County	175,177	0.68	12	532,749,000	360,457,000

# How much will citizens get back for each state, federal and local transportation dollar compared to what they contributed in the 2004-2012 period? • Nine-year Look - Fiscal Years 2004-2012

## • All Washington counties • Pre-Existing Funds, 2003 Funding Package & 2005 Funding Package

Many revenue sources are not collected at the county level. Gas tax is collected at the wholesale level, not at the retail level. Interest earnings are based on fund balances in the state-treasury and are not contributed directly by Washington citizens. Not all of the funds have been earmarked for specific project expenditures. The grant programs for public transit, TIB and CRAB are assigned to projects through a variety of selection processes.



County	Funding Contributed for Transportation	Transportation Distributions & Expenditures	Return Per Dollar Contributed
Adams	57,096,000	115,502,000	2.02
Asotin	73,166,000	45,821,000	0.63
Benton	532,749,000	360,457,000	0.68
Chelan	241,719,000	230,269,000	0.95
Clallam	223,719,000	130,162,000	0.62
Clark	1,362,071,000	1,209,749,000	0.88
Columbia	20,051,000	41,456,000	2.07
Cowlitz	340,868,000	296,477,000	0.87
Douglas	145,948,000	185,908,000	1.27
Ferry	25,874,000	65,309,000	2.52
Franklin	219,928,000	125,124,000	0.59
Garfield	7,821,000	28,142,000	3.60
Grant	272,659,000	254,929,000	0.93
Grays Harbor	243,747,000	396,940,000	1.63
Island	392,194,000	369,460,000	0.94
Jefferson	234,193,000	582,572,000	2.49
King	8,348,870,000	7,968,976,000	0.95
Kitsap	1,466,723,000	1,470,524,000	1.00
Kittitas	202,291,000	388,344,000	1.48
Klickitat	70,315,000	105,634,000	1.50
Lewis	276,799,000	341,904,000	1.26
Lincoln	34,879,000	106,126,000	3.04
Mason	184,557,000	121,769,000	0.65
Okanogan	130,764,000	137,789,000	1.05
Pacific	75,029,000	136,503,000	1.82
Pend Oreille	42,427,000	77,957,000	1.84
Pierce	2,904,400,000	2,887,362,000	0.99
San Juan	143,598,000	284,818,000	1.98
Skagit	493,655,000	895,165,000	1.76
Skamania	33,030,000	42,177,000	1.28
Snohomish	2,542,164,000	2,450,109,000	0.96
Spokane	1,435,200,000	1,202,563,000	0.84
Stevens	136,990,000	116,561,000	0.87
Thurston	777,128,000	692,128,000	0.89
Wahkiakum	13,646,000	30,448,000	2.23
Walla Walla	227,701,000	256,145,000	1.12
Whatcom	608,224,000	688,135,000	1.08
Whitman	128,117,000	162,432,000	1.27
Yakima	747,439,000	569,191,000	0.76
Total	25,486,586,000	25,486,586,000	