



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

Res 31716

Record No.: Res 31716

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 1

Ord. no:

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 10/04/2016

Final Action: 10/17/2016

Title: A RESOLUTION requesting that the Washington State Department of Transportation preserve one support pier associated with the Roanoke/R.H. Thomson Expressway; stating the City Council's intent to fund an engineering study of the pier's structural integrity; and stating the City Council's intent that the City accept ownership of the pier.

Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: Juarez, Burgess, González, Harrell,
Herbold, O'Brien

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: jodee.schwinn@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	City Clerk	10/05/2016	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
	Notes:						
1	Council President's Office	10/07/2016	sent for review	Full Council			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Full Council						
	Notes:						
1	Full Council	10/10/2016	referred	Full Council			
1	Full Council	10/17/2016	adopted				Pass
	Action Text: The Motion carried, the Resolution (Res) was adopted by the following vote, and the President signed the Resolution.						
	Notes: Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 31716.						

In Favor: 9 Councilmember Bagshaw, Councilmember Burgess, Councilmember
González , Council President Harrell, Councilmember Herbold,
Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember
O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant

Opposed: 0

1 City Clerk

10/17/2016 attested by City
Clerk

Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was attested by City Clerk.

Notes:

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 31716

A RESOLUTION requesting that the Washington State Department of Transportation preserve one support pier associated with the Roanoke/R.H. Thomson Expressway; stating the City Council's intent to fund an engineering study of the pier's structural integrity; and stating the City Council's intent that the City accept ownership of the pier.

WHEREAS, beginning in the 1950s, the Washington State Department of Highways (now the "Washington State Department of Transportation" or "WSDOT") planned the Roanoke Expressway, later renamed as the R.H. Thomson Expressway (the "Expressway"), as a four-lane highway running through Rainier Valley, the Central District, Madison Valley, Montlake, Ravenna, Wedgwood, and Lake City; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, State Route 520 ("SR 520") construction was completed including stub ramps for the Expressway interchange near the Washington Park Arboretum, sparking a civic debate about the negative impacts of highways through urban neighborhoods and a decade-long campaign to stop further state highway construction in The City of Seattle (the "City"); and

WHEREAS, the campaign to save City neighborhoods from the Expressway was notable for its leadership by ordinary citizens, its grass-roots organizing techniques, and a diverse range of community groups that allied in opposition to it; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, the group Citizens Against the R.H. Thomson was formed to organize against the highway plans and included notable Seattle activists Maynard Arsove, Aaron Dixon, Margaret Cary Tunks, Larry Gossett, Alfred Schweppe, and Victor Steinbrueck, and many other activists; and

1 WHEREAS, on February 8, 1972, the Expressway was canceled following a decisive public vote
2 against it; and

3 WHEREAS, the Expressway stub ramps were never used for highway purposes and instead
4 became popular, yet unsanctioned, recreational areas; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2011, Governor Christine Gregoire signed the Record of Decision for the SR
6 520, I-5 to Medina Bridge Replacement and HOV Project, including removing the
7 Expressway stub ramps; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2012, conceptual plans were completed and reviewed for the Arboretum North
9 Entry project, anticipating the peninsula owned by WSDOT will be transferred to the
10 City for park use; and

11 WHEREAS, on July 1, 2014, WSDOT agreed to work with the Seattle Department of Parks and
12 Recreation (DPR) and the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee to set aside
13 concrete rubble, preserve a “1963” concrete date stamp from the West Approach Bridge
14 North phase of SR 520 Replacement construction, and coordinate with DPR to salvage,
15 within reason, additional fragments prior to constructing the West Approach Bridge
16 South phase; and

17 WHEREAS, on September 12, 2014, the Seattle Design Commission provided design review for
18 WSDOT plans to build a landscaped lid and other improvements in the Montlake and
19 Arboretum areas of the SR 520 corridor, and included a recommendation “that the State
20 and City explore the idea of retaining part of the ramps to nowhere” as they “represent an
21 important time in Seattle’s history and express a key personality trait of our city”; and

1 WHEREAS, in July 2016, the citizen group Seattle Activists Remembered Celebrated and
2 Honored (ARCH) published a proposal to retain one support pier intended for the unused
3 Expressway; and

4 WHEREAS, the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee expressed support for the ARCH
5 proposal; and

6 WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance in City history of the citizen revolt
7 against the Expressway and how the efforts of civically engaged Seattleites saved many
8 neighborhoods, hundreds of City blocks, and thousands of homes from the harmful
9 impacts of highway construction; NOW, THEREFORE,

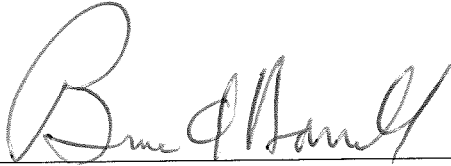
10 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

11 Section 1. The City Council requests that the Washington State Department of
12 Transportation (WSDOT) preserve and not demolish one support pier, identified as Bent 6E (the
13 "Pier") the northeastern most pier of the Expressway mainline, consisting of no less than four
14 concrete columns topped by a crossbeam, associated with the intended Expressway. WSDOT is
15 requested to assist in the City's efforts to retain the Pier in perpetuity as a cultural artifact,
16 symbolic of the citizens' movement that saved Seattle neighborhoods from further highway
17 construction, and as a reminder to future citizens of the power of participation in our democracy.

18 Section 2. To determine how the Pier can be safely preserved and the cost of doing so,
19 the City Council intends to fund an engineering study of the Pier's structural stability in a
20 freestanding state (after the roadway deck is removed), including a seismic risk analysis,
21 recommendations for retrofitting as needed, and cost estimates for the work. The City Council
22 requests that WSDOT temporarily shore the Pier as needed without significantly altering its
23 integrity and present condition until the study is completed.

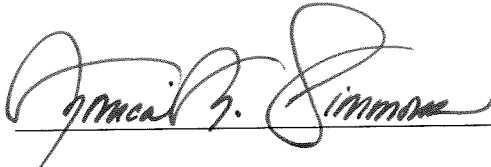
1 Section 3. The City Council intends that the City would accept ownership of the Pier with
2 the WSDOT peninsula area after WSDOT completes the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV
3 Program. The City would be responsible for maintaining and preserving the Pier as a cultural
4 artifact or “ruin” for the benefit of future visitors to the Washington Park Arboretum North Entry
5 area.

1 Adopted by the City Council the 17th day of OCTOBER, 2016,
2 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 17th day of
3 OCTOBER, 2016.

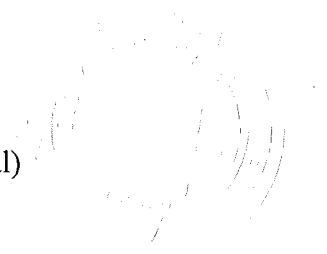
4 

5 President _____ of the City Council

6 Filed by me this 17th day of OCTOBER, 2016.

7 

8 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

9 (Seal) 

STATE OF WASHINGTON -- KING COUNTY

--SS.

343351

No.

CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

Affidavit of Publication

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12th day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

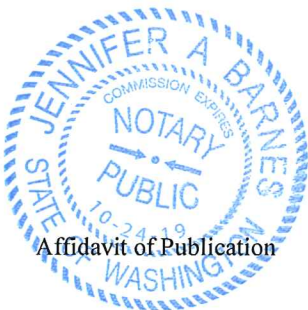
The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

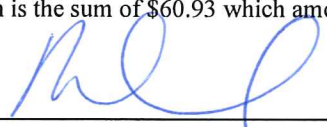
CT:31713,715-716 TITLE

was published on

11/09/16

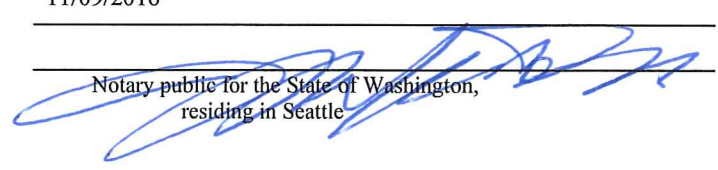
The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$60.93 which amount has been paid in full.





Subscribed and sworn to before me on

11/09/2016



Notary public for the State of Washington,
residing in Seattle

State of Washington, King County

City of Seattle

The full text of the following legislation, passed by the City Council on October 17, 2016, and published below by title only, will be mailed upon request, or can be accessed at <http://seattle.legistar.com/>. For information on upcoming meetings of the Seattle City Council, please visit <http://www.seattle.gov/council/calendar>.

Resolution 31713

A RESOLUTION to enter a partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to participate in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds Program encouraging the exploration and incorporation of bird-friendly policies, design, and best practices for creating, enhancing, and maintaining safe habitats for migratory birds and other urban wildlife.

Resolution 31715

A RESOLUTION supporting Washington Initiative Measure 735, and urging Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Initiative 735 on the November 8, 2016, general election ballot

Resolution 31716

A RESOLUTION requesting that the Washington State Department of Transportation preserve one support pier associated with the Roanoke/R.H. Thomson Expressway; stating the City Council's intent to fund an engineering study of the pier's structural integrity; and stating the City Council's intent that the City accept ownership of the pier.

Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, November 9, 2016.

11/9(343351)