From the Desk of Dorli Rainey

October 24, 2009

Today was a 10 for the protest against the tunnel. Elizabeth Campbell who already filed a lawsuit in Federal Court was the star of the event. I got interviewed, and photographed but I guess they did not like my statement:" When you look at who signed this agreement and who is present at this event, you will find that the Governor won her re-election by around 125 votes statewide (not a mandate), Mayor Nickels came in third and lost his bid for another term, Jan Drago lost her bid for election to be mayor".

You will find that this whole project hung on the good will of many of people who will not even be around when the dust begins to fly. There were about 15 people opposing the tunnel at the signing and fawning ceremony.  It is really fun to watch those people who cannot stomach each other (Gregoire and Nickels) have a mutual admiration society meeting in public after all the acrimony we have watched. We will see how this plays out in the election. Nickels certainly did not garner enough votes on his stand for the tunnel to win re-election, neither did Mallahan get the majority in the primary for standing for the tunnel. It is Michael McGinn who energized the No Tunnel Vote and took the primary. Just contemplate this for a few minutes.

This does not mean that Michael will take the election. The financial interests have too much at stake and will spend all they can to get Michael's opponent elected.  But there are State Representatives on Finance Committees (and I worked on the election of several of them) who are somewhat less positive on funding this Seattle power grab. We live in a State of varied political realities. as is evidenced by the fact that it took the odious "Seattle will pay for cost overruns amendment" to pass the tunnel project in the State Legislature. Without that provision, the tunnel would be dead already. Puyallup is not Lake Union, and neither are Spokane, Vancouver and Aberdeen.

If I let loose on my e mail list to people all over the State, there will be people who are less excited about funding this Seattle only give-away. There are people in West Seattle who will lose their easy access to downtown Seattle in spite of Ron Judd's promise that their access will be better than now.  The port right now is trying to raise the levy amount as they are allowed to without a vote of the taxpayers. So they now have pledged millions of dollars to the tunnel project when the need money for their own problems which are considerable they will go down in history the way the people did who engineered the votes on the stadia. If they win with this ill conceived, poorly planned, mismanaged, unsafe at any speed (to quote Ralph Nader) and underfunded project it is not a great legacy.

--Dorli

It is a fact that Idiocy in the United States is growing in direct proportion to the escalating military expenditures and the resulting cuts in education and human services.