

RESOLUTION 31174

1
2 A RESOLUTION setting forth the 2010 State Legislative Agenda of the City of Seattle.

3 WHEREAS, the fundamental purpose of City government is to provide its citizens the highest
4 level of service in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible; and

5 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle's Legislative Agenda is built with input from our City
6 departments, elected officials, regional governmental agencies, and advocates; and

7 WHEREAS, the City will lobby the Legislature in cooperation with these entities; and

8 WHEREAS, the 2010 legislative session will last sixty days and will develop supplemental
9 operating, capital, and transportation budgets, as well as changes to state policy; and

10 WHEREAS, Seattle is committed to being a leader on public safety and violence prevention,
11 thus providing safeguards and resources so that all people of Seattle may feel safe and
protected; and

12 WHEREAS, all members of our community should have access to basic needs such as
13 housing, and Seattle supports state funding and policy options that increase the
14 availability of affordable housing; and

15 WHEREAS, elected officials of Seattle believe it is the state's responsibility to help fund
16 critical services protecting our citizens and our quality of life, and that ensuring access
to public benefits will help vulnerable individuals and families succeed; and

17 WHEREAS, the City will advocate to maintain state funding for human services, public health,
18 education, and environmental programs; and

19 WHEREAS, Seattle is committed to protecting our natural environment and promoting efforts
20 to reduce the effects of climate change and foster growth in green jobs; and

21 WHEREAS, Seattle will work with other local governments to protect direct state funding to
22 local governments and support additional local authority to provide resources for
transportation, public safety, human services, and public health programs; and

23 WHEREAS, state funding for local capital and transportation projects helps provide important
24 community resources and we will work to protect funding for such projects; and

25 WHEREAS, Seattle is committed to equality, fairness, and social justice for all of its citizens;
26 and



1 WHEREAS, Seattle elected officials support state economic development initiatives that give
2 local governments the tools necessary to attract and retain businesses and put
underutilized property to productive use; NOW, THEREFORE,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR
CONCURRING, THAT:

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6 Section 1. The City of Seattle 2010 State Legislative Agenda as attached to this
7 resolution as Exhibit A is adopted.

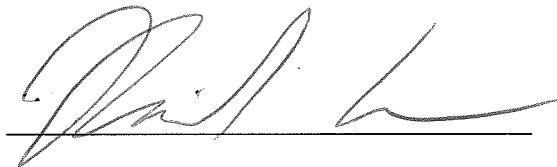
8 Section 2. All issues on the City of Seattle State Legislative Agenda are important and
9 will be worked on during the state legislative session. However, the Agenda is separated into
10 two sections to lend some hierarchy and provide guidance to Legislators, City elected officials,
11 and lobbyists. The sections in the Agenda are defined as follows:

12
13 Session Priorities – These are issues that are most important and directly impact the
14 City of Seattle and will be the focus of our efforts throughout the legislative session.

15 Statement of Policy – This section presents long-held policy positions over a broad
16 range of issue areas.
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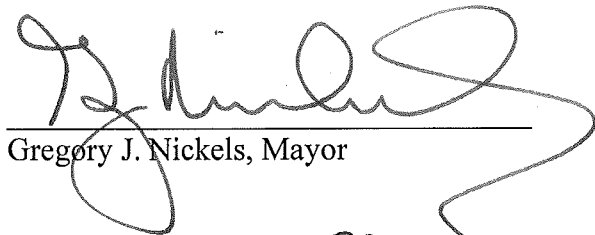


1 Adopted by the City Council the 14th day of December, 2009, and signed by
2 me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 14th day of December,
3 2009.

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5 _____

6 President _____ of the City Council

7 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:

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9 _____
10 Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

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12 Filed by me this 22 day of December, 2009.

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14 _____
15 City Clerk

16 (Seal)

17 Exhibit A: 2010 State Legislative Agenda
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CITY OF SEATTLE

2010 State Legislative Agenda

MAYOR

Gregory J. Nickels

CITY COUNCIL

Richard Conlin, Council President

Tim Burgess

Sally J. Clark

Jan Drago

Jean Godden

Bruce Harrell

Nick Licata

Richard McIver

Tom Rasmussen

STATE TEAM

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

Emelie East, Director

Linda Cannon, Deputy Director

Tim Gugerty, State Legislative Liaison

EXHIBIT N2



SESSION PRIORITIES – 2010

Budget Safety Net: Do No Harm

Periods of economic downturn affect people from every walk of life, but their effects are felt most keenly by the vulnerable. Despite budget deficits at every level of government, preserving the basic safety net of services becomes a paramount civic responsibility. Preservation of these vital services makes both social and fiscal sense: residents dependent on these programs merely turn to a number of other services, which is often an inefficient and ultimately more costly solution. Seattle believes that the State should allow no further cuts to human services, public health, or the Housing Trust Fund.

Education

We believe it is the State's responsibility to fully fund K-12 education, and to implement programs that close the achievement gap. We support enhanced and stable funding for arts in public education. We also believe that the provision of state-wide, universal pre-K instruction assures that all children enter elementary school ready to learn. During challenging economic times, it is also particularly important to support community colleges, technical colleges, and state universities as they provide access to retraining and workforce development opportunities. Public educational institutions are also a major employer in Seattle and across Washington State and have a considerable impact on our economy.

The state constitution mandates the State to provide K-12 education for all children, including special needs children. Although the City of Seattle does not operate, manage, or fund public education, successful public schools are the heart of our neighborhoods and a quality education for all students is key to the social and economic vitality of our city and state. We are committed to the success of our Seattle schools and believe the State should continue to provide for the full funding of K-12 education.

Public Safety

We strive to ensure all people feel safe and protected in their homes, businesses, and on our streets. We would support a statewide ban on military-style assault weapons and the creation of a data collection and reporting system to determine what percentage of violent deaths are caused by these and other weapons. We also believe that local governments should have the ability to regulate firearms or weapons in public areas to ensure the safety of their communities and local circumstances. We also support early intervention in juvenile possession of illegal firearms, and believe proactive detention for juvenile offenses can deter potential future convictions under the more severe adult sanctions. We believe that cooperative, community-oriented policing plays a primary role in maintaining safe and balanced communities and that the Neighborhood Corrections Initiative partnership between the Department of Corrections and local law enforcement should be fully funded.

Revenue

We strongly support maintaining current municipal revenue authority and existing city and state shared revenues. We, in concert with the Association of Washington Cities,



support a broad city flexibility package that provides greater flexibility with existing revenues and local determination of how these revenues are allocated. We do not support unfunded mandates. Seattle also supports comprehensive reform of the Washington State tax system to provide revenue stability for cities and counties and a more progressive state tax structure, including consideration of a constitutional amendment to establish a state income tax.

Transportation

We believe that a well-maintained and supported transportation system is critical in advancing economic prosperity, meaningfully reducing greenhouse gas levels, and accommodating projected population growth in a sustainable manner. We support efforts to reduce vehicle miles traveled and to promote increased use of new and existing tools to move people and goods through cleaner, more efficient choices. We believe the State should fully fund the transportation infrastructure system, particularly when there is an identified safety risk. The State should also play an increased role in funding transit and transportation choices as part of our state system. We support legislative efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, including the Safe Routes to School program and Complete Streets policies. Seattle also values a variety of transportation options to support the local economy and tourism industry and is committed to ensure that those options are safe for all the traveling public. To that end, we seek legislation that will restore local regulatory oversight and enforcement over towncars and limousines, as existed in the past.

The State should support local tools to reduce congestion through strategic investments, like additional flexibility in the Transportation Benefit District statute, restoration of the Public Works Trust Fund, and the GTEC and TRPP components of Commute Trip Reduction. Seattle concurs with the Association of Washington Cities that cities need a permanent transportation funding source for basic street maintenance and preservation. We support legislation that would create a street maintenance utility that would charge different user classifications based on trips generated and a city's cost to maintain and preserve its existing system. Seattle also supports strategies to enhance local enforcement of traffic laws, such as revised unlawful transit conduct statutes and stricter fare enforcement to ensure security and safety on transit. We support moving forward on the deep-bore tunnel as the preferred alternative for replacement of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and upholding the responsibilities set forth in the Viaduct Memorandum of Agreement (Seattle Ord. 123133). As the project manager for the deep-bore tunnel, the State has the role to implement the project on time and on budget. We will continue to work with the State on design and cost estimation of the tunnel to assist in this effort. We also support other investments funded by the Nickel Package and Transportation Partnership Account. We support efforts to develop a full funding package for replacement of SR 520. Seattle supports tolling and congestion pricing as a demand management tool and encourages development of a regional pricing system to help fund transportation alternatives to single occupancy vehicles. We support improved efficiency and oversight in licensing, including the administration of disabled parking placards and the transfer of vehicle ownership and registration.

