

## City of Seattle Edward B. Murray Mayor

May 12, 2015

Honorable Tim Burgess President Seattle City Council City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

## Dear Council President Burgess:

I am transmitting the attached Council Bill that would place the Transportation Levy to Move Seattle ballot measure before Seattle voters on November 3, 2015. This measure replaces the expiring Bridging the Gap levy and would fund capital and operating transportation improvements for both maintenance of our current system and to provide new transportation choices for our growing city. This measure would propose an increase in property taxes to generate \$930 million over nine years. To ensure strong accountability to voters and the people of Seattle, the proposed legislation creates a sixteen-member Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee would develop public reports and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on levy-related issues.

The proposed investment will occur in four categories: Safety, Interconnectivity, Affordability and Vibrancy Improvements. With safety as our highest priority, the levy will fund seismic improvements and ongoing repairs and maintenance of our transportation infrastructure. Keeping on top of day-to-day maintenance needs today will save us money tomorrow. As Seattle grows, our transportation system must grow and evolve, too. The proposed levy prioritizes the development of an interconnected system providing easy-to-use, reliable, and affordable travel options for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Andrew Glass Hastings at 684-4384.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Murray

Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council

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