



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

THIS Memorandum of Agreement (“Memorandum”) is made and entered into this ninth day of June, 2010 (the “Effective Date”) by and between the Mayor of Vancouver, British Columbia, the Mayor of Seattle, Washington and the Mayor of Portland Oregon. The Mayors are collectively referred to herein as the Parties.

RECITALS

WHEREAS the parties share a joint interest in ensuring the economic vitality and improving the quality of life for all residents in their cities; and

WHEREAS the parties strongly commit to the progressive values and sustainable best practices that are widely associated with the Pacific Northwest; and

WHEREAS the parties are committed to reducing their cities’ impacts on the natural environment, and acknowledge the impact that transportation infrastructure has on their carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS both parties are targeting opportunities to invest in non-vehicle and mass transit infrastructure, including expanded access to buses, light rail, streetcars, trams and bicycling; and

WHEREAS both parties recognize a need to invest in sustainable transit options between the Cities, reduce single-occupant vehicle trips and their impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS passenger rail transportation between cities in the Pacific Northwest has existed for generations, though often without the necessary level of investment to advance the system; and

WHEREAS investment in high-speed passenger rail and freight rail transportation between the parties would be a significant benefit to the economies of each city, and have a major positive economic impact upon the northwest region as a whole, bringing construction, maintenance and operations jobs to the region; and

WHEREAS elected leaders in the United States, including the Governors of Oregon and Washington, and members of the United States Congressional Delegation from Oregon and Washington have already begun reaching out to the U.S. Department of Transportation to advocate for high-speed rail in the Pacific Northwest; and

WHEREAS elected leaders in Canada, through the House of Commons Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, are holding public meetings on high-speed rail; and

AND WHEREAS President Barack Obama has recently announced his commitment to investing in high speed rail across the United States, committing \$8 billion in the coming year's federal budget and an additional \$1 billion a year for the next four years in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act;

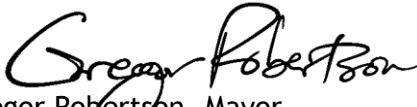
NOW THEREFORE:

The Mayor of Seattle, Washington, the Mayor of Vancouver, British Columbia, and the Mayor of Portland, Oregon agree to the following:


1. Affirm their commitment to bringing high-speed rail to the Pacific Northwest;
2. Prioritize their legislative agendas to ensure that high-speed rail advocacy becomes a centerpiece of their long-term transportation infrastructure planning;
3. Commit to meeting semi-annually to review progress, set agendas and share best practices;
4. Work to establish municipal and regional task forces on high-speed rail to coordinate outreach to key stakeholders, support local efforts, and achieve results toward high-speed rail and station funding, planning and construction;
5. Ensure transparency and accountability for each partner's contributions to this Partnership and the results of our joint efforts.

The Mayors of Vancouver, British Columbia, Seattle Washington and Portland, Oregon recognize that these activities are of vital importance to the future of the region. As such, the provisions of this memorandum become effective upon the signatures below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the unsigned being duly authorized by the respective Governments, have signed this Memorandum of Agreement on the 9th day of June, 2010.


Gregor Robertson, Mayor
City of Vancouver, British Columbia


Michael McGinn, Mayor
City of Seattle, Washington


Sam Adams, Mayor
City of Portland, Oregon