

BOARD RESOLUTION
Calling for integrity to be restored to Clark County representatives

WHEREAS, the Clark County Commissioners are entrusted with the responsibility to faithfully represent the citizens of Clark County and safeguard their property and resources; and

WHEREAS, that entrustment rests on a foundation of integrity that translates to trustworthiness, keeping our promises, honoring our commitments, following through on agreements, being transparent and honest, welcoming scrutiny, and respecting elections where the will of the people is expressed; and

WHEREAS, a commitment was made to the people of Clark County by their local elected representatives including their Clark County Commissioners as members of RTC and C-Tran that any means of funding CRC Light Rail operation and maintenance shall be authorized by a vote of the people; and

WHEREAS, that commitment was made in good faith and adopted as policy in numerous documents, was made a requirement to be satisfied and was incorporated into the CRC Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) as a condition of approval; and

WHEREAS, that adopted policy also expressly prohibited the use of any existing C-Tran revenues from being diverted to fund Light Rail operation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, C-Tran adopted policy #PBD-015 that expressly prohibits the use of any of the current voter approved 0.7% C-Tran sales tax revenues from being used for any aspect of the CRC Light Rail Project; and

WHEREAS, the C-Tran Board placed Proposition One on the November 2012 ballot as a means to fund High Capacity Transit including Light Rail and Bus Rapid Transit; and

WHEREAS, the majority of citizens in that election rejected that ballot measure; and

WHEREAS, the voters have not authorized any other means to fund CRC Light Rail operation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the same commissioners who have approved a county-wide advisory vote of the people on all Light Rail projects, acted in bad faith by rushing ahead of the voters to approve the CRC Light Rail project without the consent of the people; and

WHEREAS, the C-Tran Board, including representation from the Clark County Board of Commissioners, on September 26, 2013 betrayed those commitments made to Clark County citizens by authorizing a contract to be signed with Portland TriMet that funds CRC Light Rail operations and maintenance without the promised vote of the people; and

WHEREAS, that action also allows Oregon to unilaterally control the I-5 Bridge toll rates for Clark County citizens exposing them to taxation without representation; and

WHEREAS, two independent forensic accountants have called for an investigation of the CRC Light Rail project due to the appearance of waste, fraud and abuse; and

WHEREAS, as locally elected representatives, we acknowledge that numerous other failings not listed here, add to this history of poor judgment and lack of integrity; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED, RESOLVED AND DECREED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLARK COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings: In support of the actions enacted by this resolution, the Board adopts as its findings, the recitals set forth above.

Section 2: The Board formally apologizes for breaking faith with the citizens of Clark County and commits to pursue all available means to withdraw support for the CRC Light Rail project that was not authorized by the people.

Section 3: The Board commits to notify the appropriate authorities that we have not acted with integrity, nor properly followed the NEPA process, nor faithfully represented the majority of the citizens.

Section 4: The Board calls upon Oregon to give full disclosure of these findings to the public and to any financial institution that might consider financing the bonds to fund the CRC Light Rail project in order to caution them of the foreseeable financial loss that would likely occur due to the lack of integrity surrounding this project.

Section 5: The Board commits to notify the appropriate authorities including the FTA, FHWA, Oregon, Washington, TriMet, C-Tran, and RTC and ask that the request for funding for the CRC Light Rail project be withdrawn.

Section 6: The Board calls for a full investigation of the CRC Light Rail project as called for by forensic accountants.

Section 7: The Board enters this resolution into the public record and asks that it be published online with the official documents of the public by the CRC Light Rail project and made easily available to the public.

References:

<http://c-tran.com/assets/Board/Board Policies/PBD-015 CRC Project Policy 080911.pdf>

C-TRAN Board Resolution BR-08-019 (Page 44, E 2 & 3 of the following reference)

RTC Resolution # 07-08-10 (page 56 of the following reference)

http://www.columbiarivercrossing.org/FileLibrary/IRP/IRP_TabG.pdf

C-TRAN Board Resolution PBD-015 (Page 238 of the following reference)

http://www.c-tran.com/board_meeting_files/May_21_2013_agenda_no_QandA_.pdf

and

<http://c-tran.com/assets/Board/Board Policies/PBD-015 CRC Project Policy 080911.pdf>

C-TRAN staff report #13-023 (Page 174 of the following reference)

http://www.c-tran.com/board_meeting_files/May_21_2013_agenda_no_QandA_.pdf

C-TRAN staff report #13-023 (Page 35, marked page 32, of the following reference)

<http://www.c-tran.com/assets/20 Year Plan/C-TRAN 20 Year Plan-Adopted June 8 2010.pdf>

RCW 39.34.100 – Interlocal Cooperation Act

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=39.34&full=true>