

Vote NO on Tim Eyman's I-976

Whereas, in November 2019, Initiative 976 (a Tim Eyman Initiative) is on the Washington State ballot; and

Whereas, Initiative 976 states “Initiative Measure No. 976 concerns motor vehicle taxes and fees. This measure would repeal, reduce, or remove authority to impose certain vehicle taxes and fees; limit annual motor-vehicle-license fees to \$30, except voter-approved charges; and base vehicle taxes on Kelley Blue Book value. Should this measure be enacted into law?

- Yes
- No”; and

Whereas, I-976 strips away more than \$25 billion in funding for transportation at the state, local and regional level; and

Whereas, I-976 repeals a variety of state fees, as well as local Transportation Benefit District (TBD) authority impacting road and transit projects across the State (Local communities use TBD to pay for road construction, maintenance and local transit service) and would eliminate \$60 million in TBD funding for 61 cities as diverse as Zillah, Wenatchee, Mercer Island, Everett, Buckley and Mabton; and

Whereas, all areas of our state depend on transportation infrastructure, from the farmers who move fresh food to buyers around the world, to every retail store in the state; and

Whereas, by effectively de-funding transportation road, rail and transit projects, I-976 virtually guarantees that all residents will be forced to spend more time commuting and more money fixing broken cars, while also watching our economy weaken, as safety projects across the state are defunded; and

Whereas, I-976 hurts vulnerable populations across the state by cutting transit support and cutting transportation options for low income-workers which

- threatens cuts to programs that directly support the transportation needs of veterans, children, senior citizens and people with disabilities;
- results in large cuts to safe and reliable public transportation, which is essential for low-income workers and families, who cannot afford the cost of car ownership, gas, repair, and parking, and who are more likely to need to travel far to work;
- defunds dozens of road-repair projects across the state, leading to poorly maintained roads, more car damage and more car repairs—all of which disparately, adversely impacts low-income residents.

Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the 1st Legislative District Democrats endorse the NO on 976 campaign and urges all voters to vote NO on Initiative 976 on the November 2019 ballot; and

Therefore, Be it Further Resolved, that copies of this resolution be sent to local news outlets and to the ‘No on Initiative 976’ campaign.

10-7-19 Proposed by Linda Tosti-Lane

10-11-19 Recommend DO PASS by the 1st LD Issues Committee