

RESOLUTION NO. 668

WHEREAS, the Washington Highway Board was formally established on March 13, 1905 when the legislature enacted and Governor Albert Mead signed legislation creating the office of Highway Commissioner and a three-member State Highway Board; and

WHEREAS, the first meeting of the newly created three-member highway board took place April 17, 1905, where the board developed a biennial program and apportioned funds to construct 12 state roads; and

WHEREAS, in the first of a series of organizational changes for the highway department, the 1921 legislature, as part of a general reshuffling of state agencies, abolished the office of State Highway Commissioner and made the department a division within the Department of Public Works. The legislature also replaced the Highway Board (which had grown to five members) with a three-member Highway Commission. Highways remained under the Department of Public Works for only two years before the 1923 legislature placed them in charge of a State Highway Engineer. Sweeping changes again occurred in 1951 when a bipartisan Commission was created with the authority to appoint the director. In September 1977, Governor Daniel J. Evans signed historic legislation to create the state Department of Transportation and the now familiar seven-member Transportation Commission.

WHEREAS, many changes have occurred in transportation over the past 100 years with the beginning of early freeway development, the interconnected system of highways, bridges, tunnels, ferries, and the beginning of regional planning, to today's expanded use of the web site and the focus on traveler information, weather information, and the traffic cameras all over the state; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the many men and women who have helped shape the system of highways, roads, bridges, tunnels, and ferries that we all enjoy today; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington State Transportation Commission does hereby extend its congratulations on this important milestone in reaching 100 years and looks forward with great excitement on what the next 100 years of transportation will bring to the citizens of our great state.

ADOPTED this _____ day of February 2005.

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DALE STEDMAN, Chair

DAN O'NEAL, Vice-Chair

ED BARNES, Member

ELMIRA FORNER, Member

RICHARD FORD, Member

A. MICHÈLE MAHER, Member

LUCY STEERS, Member

DOUGLAS B. MACDONALD
Ex-Officio Member
Secretary of Transportation

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JENNIFER ZIEGLER, Administrator

Assistant Attorney General