

RESOLUTION NO. 730

WHEREAS, in 1928 the Tacoma Garden Club established a plan to commemorate those who served in World War I; and

WHEREAS, individual citizens and organizations in Pierce County funded the planting of 500 English, northern scarlet, and red oak trees along the Pacific Highway from the Nisqually River to Ponders Station; and

WHEREAS, each tree memorializes an individual, organization, or military unit that served during World War I; and

WHEREAS, many of the trees are visibly marked by a copper plaque set in stone recording the name of the honored person or organization; and

WHEREAS, those honored and commemorated represented all areas of the nation; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 1928, the tree-lined "Boulevard of Remembrance" was formally dedicated by local and state leaders; and

WHEREAS, in the decades that followed, roadway expansion and construction of Interstate 5 destroyed a large portion of the memorial, reducing the number of trees on the "Boulevard of Remembrance" from 500 to 66; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, a group of local preservationists, including Charlotte Medlock, waged a successful campaign to save the 66 surviving trees; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Pierce County Resolution R89-164 recognized the importance of preserving the "Boulevard of Remembrance" as a visible commemoration of the sacrifices many bore in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, the 66 remaining trees located along I-5 continue to honor our World War I veterans, organizations, and other individuals who contributed to the war effort; and

WHEREAS, this stretch of highway runs through Joint Base Lewis-McChord and communities which are home to many military members and veterans, and

NOW THEREFORE, the Washington State Transportation Commission names Interstate 5 the "Boulevard of Remembrance" from milepost 116 (Mounts Road exit), to milepost 125 (McChord exit); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington State Transportation Commission requests the Department of Transportation provide signage reflecting this naming designation.

ADOPTED this 18th day of October 2016.

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION


JERRY LIU, Chairman


ROY JENNINGS, Vice-Chairman


ANNE HALEY, Member


HESTER SERREBRIN, Member


JOE TORTORELLI, Member

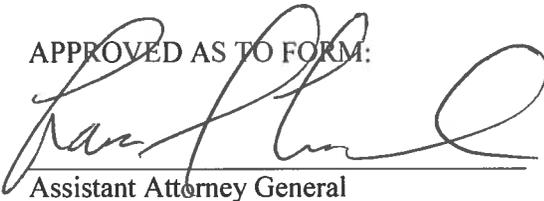

DEBORAH YOUNG, Member


SHIV BATRA, Member

ATTEST:


REEMA GRIFFITH, Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Assistant Attorney General