WHEREAS, on Saturday, March 22, 2014, at 10:37 a.m., a deadly landslide of historic proportion occurred along State Route (SR) 530 in a community known as Steelhead Haven, near the Town of Oso, Washington; and

WHEREAS, forty-three individuals lost their lives that day, forty-nine homes were destroyed or damaged, and eleven people were rescued from the slide. Four months after the slide, on July 22, 2014 the last victim was recovered; and

WHEREAS, the SR 530 slide brought down ten million cubic yards of mud and debris from the hillside, significantly damaged SR 530, and blocked the north fork of the Stillaguamish River, cutting off access to nearly three miles of roadway, severing connectivity between the City of Arlington and the Town of Darrington; and

WHEREAS, more than 900 local, state, tribal and federal responders worked with many volunteers, family members and neighbors in the search, rescue, and recovery effort; and

WHEREAS, SR 530 was officially reopened to one lane of traffic on Saturday, May 31, 2014 and reopened to two lanes of traffic six months after the slide, on Monday, September 22, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a Sitka Spruce tree withstood the slide and remained standing tall for over three years, when it was removed on September 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to heal, members from Snohomish County Parks & Recreation, the local community, family members, and first responders are working together to create a memorial to honor the lives lost, the survivors, the volunteers, the first responders, and the general perseverance of the community; and

WHEREAS, members of the Oso Slide Memorial Foundation, family members, and the local community are seeking to rename a portion of SR 530 the “Oso Slide Memorial Highway” in order to reflect the memorial with signage and signify the importance of the area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington State Transportation Commission designates a portion of SR 530, from milepost 22 to milepost 45, the “Oso Slide Memorial Highway.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Transportation Commission requests the Department of Transportation provide signing reflecting this naming designation as soon as possible.

ADOPTED this 20th of February, 2019.

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JERRY LITT, Chairman
ROY JENNINGS, Vice-Chairman

SHIV BATRA, Member
HESTER SREBRIN, Member

JOE TORTORELLI, Member
DEBBIE YOUNG, Member

JAMES A. RESTUCCI, Member

ATTEST:
REEMA GRIFFITH, Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Assistant Attorney General