I-90 Tolling Updates and Work Plan

February 25, 2013
1) Background
2) Scoping Letter Summary and HB 1945 Update (Bill Chapman, K&L Gates)
3) Draft Work Plan – Action Steps Overview
4) Draft Work Plan – Budget
5) Public Testimony
6) Council Discussion/Approval
Background

- **January 2 – Briefing by Legislators and WSDOT**
  - Overview of EA process
  - Tolling very likely
- **January 29 - WSDOT EA Scoping Meeting**
  - Very large turnout
- **February 2 - Meeting with Former Mayors**
  - Tolling likely
  - Build Coalitions
  - Engage fully in EA and MOA process
- **February 4 - City Council Meeting**
  - Public testimony
  - Re-Affirmed Opposition to Tolls on I-90
  - Directed Staff to Develop Proposed Work Plan in Coordination with Steering Committee
  - Authorized hiring of legal counsel and completion of EA Scoping Letter
Scoping Letter Overview and HB 1945 Update

See K&L Gates presentation
Work Plan – Action Steps Overview

1. **Form I-90 Steering Committee** (✓ Completed)

2. **Advocate City Interests in EA Process**
   - Engage expert legal counsel (✓ Completed)
   - Submit EA scoping letter (✓ Completed)
   - Advocate for EIS
   - Engage traffic and economic impact experts to advise City and ensure WSDOT analysis is properly conducted
   - Participate as “cooperating agency”
   - Based on community input, prioritize alternatives and mitigation
Work Plan – Action Steps Overview

3. **Build Coalitions**
   - Meet with elected officials and others across region
   - Participate in I-90 Corridor Executive Advisory Group
     (1\textsuperscript{st} Meeting – March 7)

4. **Conduct Legislative Outreach**
   - Hire lobbyist
   - Communicate/coordinate with legislative delegation

5. **Address Federal Approval of Tolling**
   - Engage expert legal counsel/lobbyist
Work Plan –
Action Steps Overview

6. Initiate 1976 MOA Consultation Process

7. Continue Citizen Engagement
   - Public Engagement Plan
   - Email Updates to Citizens (√ Completed/On-going - 2600+)
   - Please Sign Up! Email: I-90TollingInfo@mercergov.org
   - Update City Web Page (√ Completed/On-going)

8. Develop Communications and Government Affairs Strategy
   - Engage communication and government affairs expert
Work Plan - Budget

Key Expenditures Under Work Plan

- Legal Counsel for NEPA Process
- Legal Counsel/Lobbyist - Federal Approval of Tolling
- Expert in Economic Impact Analysis
- Expert in Traffic Analysis
- Lobbyist (State Legislature)
- Government Affairs and Communications Expert

Difficult to Establish Precise Budget at this Time

- Working to identify consultants and secure cost estimates
- Scope uncertainty
Work Plan - Budget

- $150,000 from Contingency Fund
- Expenditure authorization necessary to allow work to proceed promptly
- Will provide defined budget to Council as project develops
Questions?
I-90 Tolling – Public Testimony
Council Discussion and Action

1. Approve Work Plan?

2. Authorize Expenditure Authority?