

1 **A resolution to convene a C-Tran conference to correct district boundaries**

2
3 **Because** the citizens of Clark County established C-Tran in 1980 as a county-wide
4 public transit agency to meet the needs of county citizens, including the poor, elderly,
5 and handicapped, who would otherwise have no other practical means of transportation,
6 and

7
8 **Because a** county-wide public transit service was highly successful and for nearly two
9 decades, provided for an ever increasing number of Clark County citizens who
10 depended on that service as their primary means of transportation, and

11
12 **Because** for 25 years, that service operated county-wide with no islands of exclusion in
13 compliance with RCW 36.57A.030 and included all school district boundaries and
14 political boundaries in compliance with RCW 36.57A.040, and

15
16 **Because** the district was altered on June 1st, 2005 solely to assure passage of future
17 tax increases, as documented in the associated meeting minutes, to generally exclude
18 citizens who voted against a failed 2004 C-Tran sales tax hike ballot measure, and

19
20 **Because** that gerrymandering created five islands of separate urban centers where
21 rural citizens who pay the C-Tran sales tax for purchases within the benefit area, are
22 excluded from receiving transit service outside the benefit area, and are disenfranchised
23 from voting on that tax, and subjected to taxation without representation, and

24
25 **Because** a majority of the C-Tran district islands also contain multiple excluded islands
26 where citizens might otherwise reasonably benefit from public transit service, and

27
28 **Because** in contrast to RCW 36.57A.040 that states in part that “The boundaries of any
29 public transportation benefit area shall follow school district lines or election precinct
30 lines, as far as practicable.”, and the altered district does not follow any school district
31 boundary lines, and splits over 200 election precincts, and

32
33 **Because** the isolated islands excluded most areas of the county citizens from C-Van
34 service, which is the most essential means of transportation for elderly and
35 handicapped citizens who have no other practical means of transportation, and

36
37 **Because** even though Clark County’s population has grown substantially over the
38 years, the restricted C-Tran district islands have contributed to a long term decline in the
39 number of citizens being served so there are less riders now than in 1999, even though

40 the sales taxes paid by the community and the fare prices paid by riders have grown
41 even more substantially, and

42

43 **Because** RCW 36.57A.020 states in part that the county legislative authority shall, as
44 often as it deems necessary, convene a public transportation improvement conference,
45 and RCW 36.57A.030 states that the county governing body shall delineate the area of
46 the county proposed to be included within the transportation benefit area, and

47

48 **Because** “The conference may make such changes in the boundaries of the public
49 transportation benefit area as they shall deem reasonable and proper, but may not
50 delete any portion of the proposed area which will create an island of included or
51 excluded lands, and may not delete a portion of any city.”, and the altered district is
52 nothing but islands of inclusion and islands of exclusion, now therefore:

53

54 **BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS OF**
55 **CLARK COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:**

56

57 The Board of Clark County Councilors hereby adopts the findings of this resolution and
58 proposes that the C-Tran district be restored to the original county-wide area to
59 successfully serve county citizens as it did during the first 25 years.

60

61 Immediately upon the adoption of this resolution, the Board of Clark County Councilors
62 calls for a public transportation improvement conference to be convened on October 27,
63 2015 at 5:30 pm at the Vancouver Main Library to successfully fulfill the actions
64 consistent with this resolution.

65

66 The Clark County Manager is requested to facilitate the steps specified in RCW
67 36.57A.020 - 36.57A.050 so that the Board of Clark County Councilors can complete
68 the process with all speed.

69

70 **ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____, 2015.

71

72 (insert signature blocks)