

News from U.S. Rep. Adam Smith (WA-09)

Chairman, House Armed Services Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities; Member, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; vice-chair of the New Democrat Coalition.

Fiscal Year 2010 Project Requests (Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies)

Project Name: 1st Avenue South Corridor Improvements-Phase 2

Amount: \$2,000,000

Recipient: City of Burien, Washington

Address: 15811 Ambaum SW, Suite C

City: Burien

State: Washington

Zip: 98166

Explanation: Funding for Phase 2 of the 1st Avenue South Corridor Improvements will complete street redevelopment and resurfacing between SW 140th Street and SW 146th Place. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because this project will help better manage high traffic volumes, reduce accident rates, and better accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users in a regionally-significant corridor that links Seattle with the cities of Burien, Normandy Park, and Des Moines.

Project Name: 70th Avenue East & Valley Avenue East Corridor Project

Amount: \$1,800,000

Recipient: City of Fife, Washington

Address: 5411 23rd Street East

City: Fife

State: Washington

Zip: 98424

Explanation: This is a good use of taxpayer funds because this project will widen Valley Avenue East and intersectional segments of 70th Avenue East and these enhancements will reduce existing congestion and delays, reduce accident potential, and improve freight movement.

Project Name: Clean Fuel Buses

Amount: \$3,000,000

Recipient: Pierce Transit

Address: 3701 96th Street, SW, P.O. Box 99070

City: Lakewood

State: Washington

Zip: 98496

Explanation: This project will fund the purchase of six (6) clean fuel buses, in addition to the purchase of nine that Pierce Transit already has planned. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because these buses will help Pierce Transit modernize its aging fleet and continue to provide high-quality transportation services throughout the Pierce County region in a cost-saving environmentally-responsible manner.

Project Name: Intercity Transit Hybrid Buses

Amount: \$3,680,000

Recipient: Intercity Transit

Address: 526 Pattison Street, SE

City: Olympia

State: Washington

Zip: 98502

Explanation: Funding for this request will enable Intercity Transit to purchase eight hybrid diesel/electric buses to replace eight standard diesel buses that are beyond their normal useful life. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because with the purchase of new hybrid buses, Intercity Transit will be able to continue transit services to the community at current levels with substantial fuel savings and reduced air pollution emissions.

Project Name: Intermodal Transit Center

Amount: \$1,000,000

Recipient: City of Tacoma, Washington

Address: 747 Market Street

City: Tacoma

State: Washington

Zip: 98402

Explanation: This project will enable the City of Tacoma to acquire property for the construction of an intermodal transit center and parking facility. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because federal funding will help leverage new private investment in the city and strengthen Tacoma's efforts to revitalize and diversify the downtown economy while also encouraging greater public transportation use.

Project Name: Pacific Avenue Rail Bridge Construction Project

Amount: \$3,000,000

Recipient: Washington State Department of Transportation

Address: 310 Maple Park Avenue SE

City: Olympia

State: Washington

Zip: 98504

Explanation: This project will help advance the construction of a railroad bridge over Pacific Avenue in Tacoma that will carry Sound Transit's commuter trains between Lakewood and Seattle, and Amtrak's Cascades intercity passenger trains traveling between Vancouver, British Columbia and Portland/Eugene, Oregon. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because construction of this bridge will ensure that the new rail line does not interfere with high traffic areas such as Pacific Avenue and South Tacoma Way.

Project Name: South 154th Street Improvement Project

Amount: \$1,000,000

Recipient: City of SeaTac, Washington

Address: 4800 South 188th Street

City: SeaTac

State: Washington

Zip: 98188

Explanation: This project will allow for further construction and improvements to the South 154th Street corridor. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because these changes will significantly improve the efficiency and safety for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists along a key arterial connecting Burien and SeaTac to public transit, municipal centers, and the region's major international airport.

Project Name: South 228th Street-Union Pacific Grade Separation

Amount: \$1,500,000

Recipient: City of Kent, Washington

Address: 220 4th Avenue South

City: Kent

State: Washington

Zip: 98032

Explanation: Funding for the project will help construct an overpass for South 228th Street over the Union Pacific railroad line, connecting Kent's substantial warehouse and industrial area. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because this project will help to improve freight mobility through the region, as well as complete improvements to the City of Kent's South 228th Street corridor connecting I-5 and the Kent Valley.

Project Name: SR 510 Yelm Loop (Mud Run to Cullens) Project

Amount: \$900,000

Recipient: City of Yelm, Washington.

Address: 105 Yelm Avenue West

City: Yelm

State: Washington

Zip: 98597

Explanation: Funding of the SR 510 Yelm Loop project will help to further the construction of a new 4.2 mile state highway connecting SR 507 and SR 510. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because the completed project will serve as an alternate route for regional traffic around the Yelm city center, provide an enhanced north/south route as an alternate to Interstate 5, and will help to improve freight mobility in the South Puget Sound region.

Project Name: State Route 167 Extension Project

Amount: \$2,100,000

Recipient: Washington State Department of Transportation

Address: 310 Maple Park Avenue SE

City: Olympia

State: Washington

Zip: 98504

Explanation: Funding for the project will make progress on preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition, and construction for advanced mitigation. The SR 167 Extension project will build the remaining four miles of SR 167 and complete a long-planned connection to I-5. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because this project will offer improved regional vehicle and freight mobility and reduced congestion on secondary roads and other highways.

Project Name: Steilacoom Child, Youth, and Adult Center

Amount: \$2,000,000

Recipient: Town of Steilacoom, Washington

Address: 1030 Roe Street

City: Steilacoom

State: Washington

Zip: 98388

Explanation: Funding for this project will enable the construction and expansion of the Steilacoom community center which will serve the greater Steilacoom, Dupont, Lakewood, and military base area. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because the facility will provide needed facilities to expand existing programs that assist underserved local populations such as seniors, youth, and the growing number of military residents in the community.

Project Name: Triangle Project: I-5/SR 161 Ramps Mitigation

Amount: \$2,700,000

Recipient: City of Federal Way, Washington

Address: 33325 8th Avenue South, P.O. Box 9718

City: Federal Way

State: Washington

Zip: 98003

Explanation: Funding of this project will enable right-of-way acquisition and the construction of an additional northbound left-turn lane to handle higher traffic volume from the SR 18 westbound slip ramp to SR 161. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because this segment, as well as the entire Triangle Project, will improve the efficiency of vehicle and freight movement between population centers, industrial sites, and the Port of Tacoma.

Project Name: Tukwila Transit Center

Amount: \$1,500,000

Recipient: City of Tukwila, Washington

Address: 6200 Southcenter Boulevard

City: Tukwila

State: Washington

Zip: 98188

Explanation: Funding for this project will be used for the construction of Phase 1 of the Tukwila Transit Center. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will help expand the accessibility of transit options in order to accommodate current needs and future regional business and residential growth.