

## Resolution No. 1996-38

[\(Council Minutes 96/11/04\)](#)

### RESOLUTION NO. 1996-38

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, authorizing and approving the City Of Lakewood Position On Cross Base Highway Alignment Alternatives

WHEREAS, Pierce County, the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration are lead agencies on the proposed "Cross-Base Highway" project; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood was requested by the Federal Highway Administration to participate in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for the Cross-Base Highway project as a cooperating agency; and,

WHEREAS, the lead agencies have identified two alternative alignments (for the Cross-Base Highway in the American Lake Gardens area of the City of Lakewood) to be carried forward through the Environmental Impact Statement and Major Investment Study (MIS) phases of the project; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood has expressed its need to separately assess these alternative alignments, and to have sufficient time to conduct this assessment; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood indicated in the Memorandum of Agreement it adopted by Resolution that it would advise Pierce County by October 15, 1996 of its decision regarding these alternatives; and,

WHEREAS, in subsequent discussions between staff of the City of Lakewood and Pierce County it was agreed that the date for said decision could be delayed to the first part of November without significantly affecting the project schedule; and,

WHEREAS, the Lakewood City Council formed an ad hoc committee to investigate the Cross Base Highway alignments and their impacts in the City of Lakewood, especially in the American Lake Gardens and Tillicum neighborhoods; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City of Lakewood to be a good neighbor and to work cooperatively with the Fort Lewis and McChord military bases and Pierce County; and,

WHEREAS, said ad hoc committee, after several public meetings, a formal public hearing, numerous interviews with interested parties including the military bases, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce Utilities and Transportation Committee, the Tillicum Council of the Chamber of Commerce, the Woodbrook Hunt Club, the Woodbrook equestrian businesses, and major industries in the area; and,

WHEREAS, after further study of the alternatives and their potential impacts, the Ad Hoc Committee reports the following:

1. The City of Lakewood recognizes there are regional and local benefits to be derived from the proposed Cross Base Highway and is supportive of regionally significant transportation improvements, and
2. The City of Lakewood should benefit economically from the Cross Base Highway, although the degree of benefit will be dependent on its alignment and accessibility to and from Lakewood, and
3. The City of Lakewood recognizes the important national security mission of the Fort Lewis and McChord military bases and strongly supports that mission as well as the overall benefit and positive economic impact from the military bases, and
4. The City of Lakewood similarly recognizes the unique character of the American Lake Gardens neighborhood, including the equestrian industry, and must weigh the impacts on its citizens in relation to the overall regional benefits of the Cross Base Highway, and
5. The City of Lakewood has a responsibility to provide a reasonable level of protection to its citizens from the impacts of any project such as the Cross Base Highway, and
6. It is appropriate for the City of Lakewood to consider the same issues and to apply the same standards, as applicable, in reviewing proposed alignments for the highway as have been utilized by the military bases and accepted by Pierce County, and
7. The City of Lakewood believes other potential alignments exist for the proposed highway in the vicinity of American Lake Gardens which the City might reasonably support while still utilizing the issues and standards referenced above both for the City and the military community, and
8. The equestrian industry in the American Lake Gardens area is irreplaceable, and the two alignments would effectively result in the loss of this attribute to the community, and
9. The South Central alignment would effectively divide the American Lake Gardens residential community, isolating its residents, and will have other significant adverse impacts on low income and minority populations which is contrary to Federal Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and  
The South Central alignment would effectively divide the American Lake Gardens residential community, isolating its residents, and will have other significant adverse impacts on low income and minority populations which is contrary to Federal Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and10. Significant impacts to the infrastructure in the Tillicum business community would occur as a result of the increased traffic from the proposed project, and
11. Both alternatives, South Central and Alternative 2, presently being carried forward through the EIS and MIS process do not adequately mitigate significant adverse impacts of the proposed highway on the existing equestrian industry, the American Lake Gardens residential community, and the Tillicum business community, and

12. The Central Alignment Alternative has been officially eliminated from further consideration, and the South Central Alignment appears to have a disproportionate affect on low income households and minorities and, therefore, is not a viable alternative in light of the Environmental Justice Regulations. Consequently, it appears the EIS and MIS will be prepared with only one truly viable alternative. The City of Lakewood is concerned about the validity of an EIS that considers only one

alternative for this type of project other than the "no action" alternative.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES as follows:

1. That the official position of the Lakewood City Council is that it supports the Cross Base Highway as an appropriate mechanism to address regional transportation needs but find that the two alternatives identified in the current EIS process are not acceptable as they are presently proposed.

2. That the City Council further finds that:

(A) the South Central alignment alternative must be substantially modified to mitigate the significant adverse impacts on the low income households and minority populations and the equestrian industry;

(B) the Alternative 2 alignment must be substantially modified to mitigate similar impacts particularly related to the equestrian industry, or another alternative that avoids these impacts must be identified;

(C) any alternative that ties to I-5 at Exit 123 must mitigate impacts to Union Avenue in the Tillicum business community and provide for acceptable ingress and egress to and from the businesses in Tillicum, and

(D) the constraints on the project alignments established by the military in 1986 should be re-negotiated in light of the substantial changes which have occurred in the geo-political arena since those constraints were formulated, and

(E) as part of the re-negotiation of these constraints, the U.S. Department of Defense and our Congressional Delegation should be engaged in discussions as to the possibility of granting further inroads onto either Fort Lewis or McChord Air Force Base which would accommodate the development of other, more viable routes for a Cross Base Highway.

3. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 4th day of November, 1996.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

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Bill Harrison, Mayor

Attest:

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Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

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Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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