

Resolve 11-08/09
Tab 15 2-18-09

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**CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL**

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Resolution in Support of the PACTS "High Priority Project" Candidates

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee of the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System (PACTS) has been the primary regional transportation priority setting body for the Greater Portland region since 1975, and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the United States Congress is scheduled to authorize the next multi-year federal transportation funding and policy legislation which is likely to include high priority projects throughout the country, and

WHEREAS, a PACTS High Priority Projects Committee has worked closely with the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) for two years to develop a list of high priority projects for submission to our Congressional Delegation, and

WHEREAS, the PACTS High Priority Projects Committee solicited proposals from our region's municipalities and transit systems, considered the PACTS regional transportation plan called *Destination Tomorrow* and other regionally significant transportation plans and studies, and sought input from the general public at several public forums and through a statistically significant regional telephone survey, and

WHEREAS, the PACTS Policy Committee has directed PACTS staff to seek support from our region's city and town councils and transit system boards for the three proposals listed below (and described further in the attached memorandum), and

WHEREAS, the Portland City Council has reviewed the proposals listed below;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Portland City Council wholeheartedly encourages the PACTS Policy Committee to submit the following proposals to our Congressional Delegation, and encourages the Delegation to work hard to secure federal High Priority Project funding for the proposals in the next multi-year federal transportation authorization bill:

- The new Portland-South-Portland Veterans Bridge if MaineDOT needs additional financing (current cost estimate at \$56,000,000). We also encourage MaineDOT to design the new bridge to serve the area's transit, pedestrian and bicycling needs of the next 100 years.
- Purchase 61 vehicles for our region's transit systems: a passenger ferry, 29 buses (19 replacements and 10 additional ones) and 31 paratransit vans and buses (17 replacements and 14 additional ones) at a cost estimate of \$25,000,000.