

## City of Bellevue's Tolling Policy

### **Statewide Tolling Policy:**

Bellevue supports a comprehensive and thoughtful approach to tolling and pricing, but only as part of a systematic program for improving mobility.

The state is to start a pilot project for congestion pricing on SR 167, with results to follow. If tolling and congestion pricing are to be considered for Washington's highways in the future, Bellevue urges the Legislature to provide specific policy direction for how, when and why tolling and congestion pricing will be implemented within Washington to ensure a consistent and equitable policy basis for possible deployment throughout the Puget Sound Region.

Statewide tolling and pricing policy legislation should at a minimum address the following:

Authorizing authority: The Legislature should retain final authority to determine when tolling and pricing is used on state highways and interstate facilities.

Policy goals for tolling and pricing: The state should clearly define tolling and pricing and the transportation policy goals to be achieved in pursuing them. Specifically, tolling and pricing decisions should meet the following policy goals:

- Equity – tolling and pricing should be implemented in a manner that assures geographic, economic and social equity are achieved within regions;
- Performance – tolling and pricing decisions should be based upon sound financial and transportation performance analyses to assure that the most optimal approaches are used for achieving the desired purposes of providing supplemental revenue and improved efficiency of the system;
- Corridor benefit - Corridor specific toll revenue should be used to benefit that corridor. The application of system-wide tolls and pricing should be considered for systematic improvements;
- Impacts – tolling and pricing decisions and programs should consider and address systematic impacts to other transportation facilities and services including local streets and roads;
- Public outreach – comprehensive and sustained public input opportunities and communications should be conducted prior to decision-making and implementation. Regular monitoring of public use and response to tolling and pricing should be required.

Assurance of a systematic approach: The State should require the development of an integrated approach to managing and paying for the transportation system prior to making tolling or pricing decisions and before allowing any local or regional governments to implement tolling programs.

Bellevue supports the development of a "tolling plan" for the Puget Sound Region that articulates why, how, where and when tolling and pricing will be implemented, how it will affect the transportation system and the relationship of tolling to other transportation funding sources and regional mobility investments. Local governments should play a direct and integral role in the development of the regional tolling plan.