



**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members  
**FROM:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, City Manager's Office  
**COPY:** City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution recommending the Washington State Transportation Commission name State Route 509 the Philip Martin Lelli Memorial Highway, between Pacific Avenue and Taylor Way in Tacoma; and, transmitting the resolution to the Washington State Department of Transportation through the Secretary of Transportation and to the Washington State Transportation Commission, – January 26, 2016  
**DATE:** January 15, 2016

**SUMMARY:**

Requesting the adoption of a resolution recommending the Washington State Transportation Commission name State Route 509, between Pacific Avenue and Taylor Way, as the Philip Martin Lelli Memorial Highway; and, transmitting the resolution to the Washington State Transportation Commission and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Philip Martin Lelli's work and commitment to the Port of Tacoma helped transform the Port into the fifth largest container port in North America, to the benefit of the Port, its employees, surrounding businesses, the City of Tacoma, Pierce County, and the State of Washington.

**COUNCIL SPONSORS:**

Deputy Mayor Mello and Council Members Ibsen and McCarthy

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

This resolution best aligns with the following City Council's strategic policy priority because of the economic opportunities Mr. Lelli strived to create in the City of Tacoma:

- Foster a vibrant and diverse economy with good jobs for all Tacoma residents.

**BACKGROUND:**

During the January 12, 2016 Study Session, Council Member McCarthy shared a Council Consideration Request sponsored by Deputy Mayor Mello and Council Member Ibsen. It was the consensus of the City Council to bring the resolution forward for Council consideration on the January 26<sup>th</sup> Council agenda.

Philip Martin Lelli was a longshoreman, union activist, local philanthropist, and past president of the International Longshore Warehouse Union Local 23 in Tacoma, a position he was re-elected to an unprecedented 17 times. He worked with fellow union members, business leaders and legislators in a collaborative manner with the goal of making the Port of Tacoma one of the greatest shipping ports in the nation. Mr. Lelli helped revolutionize Tacoma's waterfront by advocating for greater labor force efficiency and technical innovation on the docks in the late 1960s and played a critical role when the Port transitioned away from manual cargo unloading to the modern shipping container and crane system we see today. He and the Chief Executive Officer of the Port joined forces to attract more business and successfully attracted and recruited huge shipping lines to the Port.

In addition to his work to promote economic growth, Mr. Lelli was well known for his generosity and service to his community through his volunteering and supporting food banks and hot meal sites throughout Pierce County.



**ISSUE:**

The sponsoring Deputy Mayor and Council Members for this resolution support the adoption and transmission to the Washington Department of Transportation and the Washington State Transportation Commission.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The City Council could choose to adopt or reject this resolution.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

To acknowledge Philip Martin Lelli's contributions to the economic success of the City of Tacoma and the Port of Tacoma, the Deputy Mayor and Council Members Ibsen and McCarthy recommend the adoption of this resolution.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact to the City of Tacoma for this City Council action.