



## RESOLUTION NO. 39373

1 BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR MELLO AND COUNCIL MEMBERS IBSEN  
2 AND McCARTHY

3 A RESOLUTION recommending that the Washington State Transportation  
4 Commission name State Route 509, between Pacific Avenue and Taylor  
5 Way in Tacoma, the Philip Martin Lelli Memorial Highway; and directing the  
6 City Clerk to transmit to the Washington State Department of Transportation,  
7 through the Secretary of Transportation, and to the Washington State  
8 Transportation Commission, a certified copy of this resolution.

9 WHEREAS Philip Martin Lelli's work and commitment to the Port of  
10 Tacoma ("Port") helped transform the Port into the fifth largest container port in  
11 North America, to the benefit of the Port, its employees, surrounding businesses,  
12 the City of Tacoma, Pierce County, and the state of Washington, and

13 WHEREAS Philip Martin Lelli was a longshoreman, union activist, local  
14 philanthropist, and past president of the International Longshore Warehouse Union  
15 Local 23 in Tacoma, a position he was re-elected to an unprecedented 17 times,  
16 and

17 WHEREAS Philip Martin Lelli worked with fellow union members, business  
18 leaders, and legislators in a collaborative manner with the goal of making the Port  
19 one of the greatest shipping ports in the nation, and

20 WHEREAS Philip Martin Lelli helped revolutionize Tacoma's waterfront by  
21 advocating for greater labor force efficiency and technical innovation on the docks,  
22 and played a critical role in the late 1960s, when the Port transitioned away from  
23 manual cargo unloading to the modern shipping container and crane system which  
24 exists today, and  
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WHEREAS, for the first time in Puget Sound history, a Port executive and union president teamed up when Philip Martin Lelli and E.L. Roy Perry, Chief Executive Officer of the Port, joined forces to attract more business to the Port, and

WHEREAS, together, Philip Martin Lelli and E.L. Roy Perry travelled the world promising fast and efficient service, and successfully attracted and recruited vast shipping lines to the Port, including Totem Ocean Express, SeaLand and Maersk, and

WHEREAS Philip Martin Lelli was appointed Port Commissioner in 1993 and served as president of the Tacoma Propeller Club where, in 1982, he was awarded its highest accolade, the title of Master Mariner, for his ability to recruit new business to the Port, and

WHEREAS the Seattle Propeller Club honored Philip Martin Lelli with the Puget Sound Maritime Man of the Year Award in 1987, and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work to promote economic growth, Philip Martin Lelli was well known for his generosity and service to his community through his work with the Hospitality Kitchen at St. Leo's School, as well as his support of the Hispanic Food Bank and the Lake Tapps Food Bank in Pierce County; Now, Therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:**

Section 1. That the City Council hereby recommends that the Washington State Transportation Commission commence proceedings to name State Route 509, between Pacific Avenue and Taylor Way in Tacoma, the Philip Martin Lelli



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Memorial Highway, to honor his dedication and service as a longshoreman, activist, and advocate for the betterment of the Port of Tacoma and state of Washington.

Section 2. That the City Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Lynn Peterson, Secretary of Transportation, the Washington State Transportation Commission, and the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney