

## **League of Seattle-King County Endorses Seattle Proposition 1.**

At a special meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020, the Board voted unanimously to endorse Seattle Proposition 1. The measure authorizes up to a .15% sales tax to fund transit and related transportation needs. Our positions on transportation and growth management support this endorsement. This is a renewal of a tax approved by the voters and endorsed by the League in 2014.

Although the League opposes regressive taxes to fund basic services, such as transit, the Board felt it was vital to renew this funding to remain consistent with our 2014 endorsement. The League recognizes the necessity of reliable access to public transportation for our large metro area and particularly for low income households with no vehicle.

This time around, the League has three additional reasons for supporting the measure. First, transit funding was drastically curtailed last year by the passage of I-976, which capped car tabs at \$30. The initiative has been challenged in court, but other avenues must be pursued while that litigation is pending. Second, mass transit is necessary to counter climate change. Our support of this measure dovetails with our work to implement the King County Climate Action Toolkit.

An overhaul of Washington's tax structure is long overdue. We cannot continue to rely on piecemeal funding strategies for basic services, which exacerbates inequities.