47214 235th AVE SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022
October 8, 2015

Attn: Bridge and Roads Task Force
Regarding: Elimination of the Road Tier System

I just recently learned of the formation of the Bridge and Roads Task Force for addressing road issues within unincorporated King County while investigating a general lack of road maintenance in my own neighborhood.

I live in Glacier Vista on the outskirts of Enumclaw. There are approximately 60 homes within the development. We are bordered by the White River, Highway 410 and protected agricultural land that cannot be developed. We have small children playing here, school buses ferrying students to and from school, delivery trucks and garbage and recycling trucks on our roads. The roadway hasn't received any significant maintenance since I moved to the area in 2006. When we call the Roads department with concerns, they have to tell us that we aren't Tier 1 or 2 roads, so our concerns will not be addressed. After sharing the story with neighbors many were surprised to hear our roadway is designated a Tier 4 road and will receive virtually no roadway maintenance, snow or storm system maintenance.

Our local road is failing quickly due to water infiltration and lack of storm water management. Sinking roadway sections and spalling surface will completely disintegrate soon if some type of maintenance isn't applied soon, at a cost that's much less expensive than total roadway replacement. Prior to 2011, we did not have a road tier system. Everyone in King County was able to express their road safety concerns to the roads department. And everyone was able to have their safety concerns (mowing, de-icing, fixing potholes, cleaning out ditches, etc.) addressed as money was available. All of us pay taxes and all of us had a voice in the road safety conditions.

When developing the road tier system, someone must have picked out dead end roads on a map and decided that those roads should not have any service. Those areas included New Horizons, Fairway Hills and our own Glacier Vista – vibrant neighborhood communities in Enumclaw.

I would like you recommend abolishment of the Tier system and revert back to the previous system of giving service to every taxpayer. I trust the Roads Department to do their best to prioritize and meet everyone's needs, considering the amount of money available.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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