

SEATTLE PORT COMMISSION MOTION

**TO ENDORSE THE TOWN HALL COMMUNITY FORUM
“IN OUR OWN BACKYARD:
A CLOSER LOOK AT THE SEX TRAFFICKING OF LOCAL GIRLS”**

JANUARY 11, 2011

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION

The Port of Seattle Commission (“Commission”) acknowledges that the State of Washington has stipulated that January 13, 2011, is Anti Trafficking Engagement Day; and that the King County Council on January 10, 2011, plans to issue a proclamation recognizing Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

The Commission has noted in prior public sessions the Port of Seattle's role in protecting people who travel into our communities through our airport and seaport facilities and appreciates the role of the Port of Seattle Police Department played recently in participating in Operation Cross Country V, a national enforcement action leading to the rescue of 23 children in the Puget Sound area. A recent study commissioned by the City of Seattle identified over 200 children who are being forced into prostitution locally and the number is likely closer to 300 to 500.

The Women’s Funding Alliance will present a Town Hall Community Forum on January 20, 2011, to discuss the issue of sex trafficking of local girls. This forum is an opportunity to learn more about the growing tragedy of sex trafficking in our region and what is being done about it.

MOTION

The Commission hereby recognizes the important need to help educate King County residents about Human Trafficking risks in our communities and wishes to endorse the Town Hall Community Forum being held in Seattle, Washington, on January 20, 2011, which is organized by the Women's Funding Alliance. The forum will discuss "the Sex Trafficking of Local Girls.”

The Commission approves the use of the Port of Seattle name to appear on the Town Hall Community Forum program material and on the Women's Funding Alliance website as an endorser and supporter of the forum.