

## Resolutions adopted by MLKCLC in 2008

Supporting the City of Seattle's efforts to modify the state sales/use tax credit - 1/16/08

Supporting the Port of Seattle - 2/6/08

Supporting the coupling of a commuter rail line in the Eastside Corridor with a bike/hiking trail - 2/20/08

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Supporting IBEW Local 77 - 4/2/08

Endorsing the May 1, 2008 anti-war march and rally - 4/16/08

Supporting a national holiday celebrating Cesar Chavez - 4/16/08

Opposing government persecution of Costa Rican trade union leaders for opposing ratification and implementation of CAFTA - 4/16/08

Supporting increased funding for the King County Reemployment Support Center - 7/16/08

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Supporting WFSE Local 1488 workers at the UW - 8/20/08

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Opposing the bailout of the bad debts of the financial industry - 10/1/08

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Regarding King County's 2009 budget/Equal Benefits Coordinator - 11/5/08

Supporting Convention Center expansion - 11/5/08

### **Resolution supporting the City of Seattle's efforts to modify the state sales/use tax credit - Adopted 1/16/08**

WHEREAS the Seattle City Council in December 2006 designated unincorporated North Highline as a Potential Annexation Area (PAA) which is the first step in a process for the City of Seattle's consideration of a potential annexation of the area into the City, subject to approval of the registered voters in the area, as provided by law; and

WHEREAS the North Highline PAA is made up of a collection of diverse and vibrant neighborhoods including White Center, Boulevard Park, Arbor Lake, Top Hat and Hill Top that contain large populations of people of color, recent immigrants, young families, and the elderly; and

WHEREAS as part of the PAA designation process the City of Seattle met extensively with residents and businesses in the North Highline PAA to identify their needs in the areas of public safety, human/social services and community/economic development needs; and

WHEREAS the City of Seattle has an extensive array of programs and initiatives that would assist residents and businesses in the North Highline PAA in meeting the goals of keeping their neighborhoods safe, build strong families and healthy communities, and create jobs and opportunity for everyone; and

WHEREAS on October 22, 2007, Seattle City Council held a hearing on the proposed annexations and a diverse group of thirty residents of the North Highline PAA including religious leaders, community activists and community leaders spoke in support with no one testifying against the proposal; and

WHEREAS upon annexation, per state law and subject to collective bargaining, full-time North Highline professional firefighters will become Seattle firefighters with all seniority and pensions preserved and Water District #45 employees will become Seattle Public Utilities employees with seniority and pensions preserved; and

WHEREAS as a result of the City of Seattle's financial analysis there exists a "financial gap" between the amount of tax revenue generated in the North Highline PAA and the cost of providing, maintaining and operating municipal services to the area; and

WHEREAS in 1996, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation that allowed cities in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties to impose a local sales/use tax for a 10-year period, that is credited against the state's sales/use tax so there is no increase in the sales tax rate and there is no increase in taxes to Seattle consumers, to provide, maintain and operate municipal services within a newly annexed area and thereby furthering the goals of the state's Growth Management Act by encouraging the annexation of unincorporated urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS the state law excluded cities with a population greater than 400,000, thereby excluding the City of Seattle from having the opportunity to use this important financial tool; and

WHEREAS the City of Seattle is at a disadvantage compared to other cities without access to the state's sales/use tax credit to offset municipal service costs to newly annexed area and legislation (amended HB 1139) has been drafted that will remove this disadvantage; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M.L. King County Labor Council hereby takes an official position to support the City of Seattle in its legislative efforts to modify the state sales/use tax credit to offset municipal service costs to newly annexed areas to include the City of Seattle (RCW 82.14.415) and shall actively support such passage.

### **Resolution supporting the Port of Seattle - Adopted 2/6/08**

WHEREAS the Port of Seattle has been a longtime employer of Union Trades people, and as a Public Owner, the Port of Seattle has created thousands of family wage construction jobs that have paid millions of dollars into wages, pensions and benefits; and

WHEREAS one of the core missions of the Port of Seattle is economic development; and

WHEREAS by investing in our local workforce through the purchase of construction services, the Port is annually investing millions of dollars into the State and Local economies; and

WHEREAS a major source of financing of the Port's capital projects comes from the Port of Seattle's ability to assess a small portion of the property tax collected; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council officially go on record as strongly supporting the Port of Seattle and the maintenance of their full taxing authority; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be advanced on to the Washington State Labor Council for consideration and adoption.

**Resolution supporting the coupling of a commuter rail line in the Eastside Corridor with a bike/hiking trail - Adopted 2/20/08**

WHEREAS road congestion is a growing problem in Central Puget Sound; population is projected by regional planners to swell 52 percent by 2040; and current transit options are limited; and

WHEREAS the 42-mile long BNSF Eastside rail line has the potential to become one of the area's premier commuter lines within the Puget Sound system; and

WHEREAS the Eastside line has a solid potential ridership basis, room for growth, and is located in an area that can only be enhanced by additional commuter service; and

WHEREAS the northern eastside line connects to the main east/ west line at Snohomish serving Amtrak to Wenatchee and Spokane and possibly a future Sounder connection from Everett; and the Southern eastside line connects to the main north-south lines serving Amtrak and Sounder from Portland/Tacoma to Seattle creating a transit loop similar to I-5 and I 405; and

WHEREAS the line will increase its value as the area grows around it; and

WHEREAS track, tie and bridge work needed to permit 40 mph commuter line service would cost a modest \$37 million, compared to the cost for creating a similar system on 32 miles of track in Austin, Texas, which is \$92 million; and

WHEREAS existing machinery can take up old track, and replace the wood ties with new concrete ones which will last 60 years; and

WHEREAS the flexibility of the type of commuter rail proposed enhances their potential economic impact in Eastside communities. DMU coaches can travel not only on conventional rail, but also on track embedded in concrete, accessing downtown areas adjacent to the line, like Bellevue's; and

WHEREAS voters having firmly rejected the roads and transit ballot measure, Proposition 1, in November 2007, including an extension of Sound Transit's light rail system east from Seattle across Lake Washington, we need to think big, but practical about solving the region's transportation issues; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Martin Luther King County Labor council strongly supports the coupling of a commuter line in the Eastside Corridor with a state of the art bike/hiking trail to create the area's premier transportation corridor.

**Resolution calling upon OWLS to cease and desist interference in ATU Local 587 negotiations - Adopted 2/20/08**

WHEREAS, on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Organized Workers for Labor Solidarity (OWLS) picketed the King County Metro management offices at the King Street Center, and handed out fliers to the public in Seattle's International District, in what they described as a "Valentine's Day Solidarity Action" with ATU 587 and other County workers; and

WHEREAS, while ATU Local 587 and the Martin Luther King Labor Council (MLKCLC) recognize the rights of citizens to free speech and protest, OWLS has neither been appointed by the officers nor elected by the members of Local 587 to speak on their behalf; and

WHEREAS, the action of OWLS did not have the sanction, support and even foreknowledge of the democratically elected leadership of ATU Local 587; and

WHEREAS, a motion for Local 587 to conduct an informational picket of the County was voted down at the ATU Local 587 January membership meetings; and

WHEREAS, the officers of Local 587 consider this unauthorized work action to be in direct conflict with ongoing negotiations with the County and detrimental to the health and welfare of ATU 587; and

WHEREAS, according to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between ATU Local 587 and King County Metro Transit, ATU Local 587 is recognized as the sole bargaining agent for its members; and

WHEREAS, although ATU Local 587 appreciates offers of assistance directed to the 587 leadership from MLKCLC affiliates, OWLS is not such an affiliate; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Martin Luther King County Labor Council call upon Organized Workers for Labor Solidarity to immediately cease and desist in any and all interference in the negotiations between Amalgamated Transit Union Local 587 and King County Metro Transit.

### **Resolution opposing the Airbus tanker deal - Adopted 3/19/08**

WHEREAS American taxpayers are outraged that the U.S. Government awarded a \$40 billion contract to European-based Airbus to build the U.S. Air Force air refueling tanker; and

WHEREAS a Machinists Union member-built Boeing tanker would have provided 9000 jobs in Washington State, over 44,000 family wage jobs in America and \$400 million to our state's economy; and

WHEREAS the loss of the tanker contract to Airbus affects America's aerospace industry future and with the loss of America's aerospace manufacturing capacity our country will have to rely on foreign countries to provide the military hardware needed to defend our nation; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Air Force switched the section criteria after the contract bids were submitted, and that change better suited the Airbus bid and disadvantaged the Boeing proposal; and

WHEREAS the Airbus tanker's larger airframe will require billions of dollars in additional construction costs including expanding air bases, landing strips and new hangers; and

WHEREAS the Boeing tanker would require 24% less fuel (an estimated \$15 billion saving to taxpayers) and create substantially less greenhouse gases with a significant lessening of a global warming impact; and

WHEREAS Airbus has not built tankers, the factory in Alabama has yet not been built, nor have the 1500 skilled workers needed to finish the Airbus tanker been hired or trained; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Government has filed charges against the European governments for illegal subsidies which gave Airbus an unfair price advantage over Boeing; and

WHEREAS major components of the Boeing 767 are also built in foreign countries; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council goes on record in support of withdrawing the appropriation for the Airbus tanker and a new contract competition be commenced which will factor in the American economy, American jobs, national defense implications, the strategic importance of an American aerospace industry, the impact of additional long-term operating costs to taxpayers, the impact on the environment, the illegal European subsidies to Airbus, and will create a fair and consistent selection criteria; and be it further

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council calls upon Congress to pass appropriate legislation to require that at least 75% of tankers be built in the U.S. by U.S. workers; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council forward this resolution to President George Bush and all members of Washington State's Congressional delegation.

#### **Resolution supporting IBEW Local 77 - Adopted 4/2/08**

WHEREAS IBEW Local 77 has been in existence for more than 110 years and has been affiliated with the M. L. King County Labor Council since its conception; and WHEREAS IBEW Local 77 represents 365 Asplundh Tree Expert Company employees in 11 different job classifications; and

WHEREAS IBEW Local 77 and the Asplundh Tree Expert Company have been negotiating for nearly six month and nine month separate bargaining sessions; and WHEREAS IBEW Local 77 and the Asplundh Tree Expert Company have had three contract offers rejected by the employees since November 2007; and

WHEREAS Asplundh Tree Expert Company has failed to respond affirmatively to any of the offers presented by Local 77, causing an apparent impasse; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council will go on record as supporting IBEW Local 77 and their contract negotiations with Asplundh Tree Experts Company; and be it further

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council will communicate its support to the Washington State Labor Council to seek any and all assistance or intervention in order to forgo any possible negative actions by any or all parties involved and will seek the assistance of all other unions in Washington State.

#### **Resolution endorsing the May 1, 2008 anti-war march and rally - Adopted 4/16/08**

WHEREAS, the AFL-CIO has also long opposed the Iraq war, calling in 2005 for the rapid return of our troops; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the war will, if continued, rise into trillions of dollars which could and should be spent on pressing domestic needs, including universal health care, job retraining, adequate housing and education; and

WHEREAS, the longshore division of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union has called for united labor action on May 1, 2008, International Workers Day, to demand an end to the war; and

WHEREAS, in Seattle, a coalition of labor and our allies has formed to sponsor a march and rally on May 1st to declare “no peace, no work” and demand “end the war now, bring our troops home;” and

WHEREAS, this march will begin at 12:00 noon at Jack Perry Park, near Terminal 46, and end at Terminal 66; and

WHEREAS, the march will, in addition to demanding an end to the war, focus on several local workers’ rights struggles, including the efforts of Washington State Ferry workers to win new contracts; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council endorses the May 1<sup>st</sup> march and rally; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Council will urge all affiliates who can to participate in the march and rally; and be it finally

RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the affiliates and the Washington State Labor Council urging those bodies to support these and similar actions.

#### **Resolution in support of a national holiday celebrating Cesar Chavez - Adopted 4/16/08**

WHEREAS working conditions for migrant workers were and continue to be harsh and unsafe; the wages were and are still low, making it difficult to support a family; and WHEREAS Cesar Chavez spent most of his life working in the California fields; and WHEREAS Cesar Chavez started to organize agricultural workers into a labor union in the 1950s in an attempt to improve the working conditions and to get better pay for the migrant workers from their employers; and

WHEREAS Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962 which honored the walk-out by farm workers in Delano, California in 1965 who were in another union, the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee. In 1966 both unions joined together to form the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, which later became the United Farm Workers as we know it today; and

WHEREAS Cesar Chavez, through tireless leadership made this nation aware of the struggles of the farm workers and their working conditions; and by fasting and other nonviolent tactics Cesar brought recognition to the importance and dignity of all farm workers, thereby becoming the voice of the farm worker; be it therefore

RESOLVED that Cesar Chavez be recognized for his contribution in overcoming the plight of the farm worker and for the dignity of all people; and be it further

RESOLVED that Cesar Chavez’s birthday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, be made a national holiday through the state and national legislative efforts; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the MLKCLC urge its affiliates to support this resolution by adopting it and forwarding it to the AFL-CIO for its support.

#### **Resolution against government persecution of Costa Rican trade union leaders for opposing ratification and implementation of CAFTA - Adopted 4/16/08**

WHEREAS the U.S. labor movement has been outspoken in its opposition to free trade agreements that put the interests of multi-national corporate profiteers over the interests of workers, the environment and public welfare; and

WHEREAS these agreements include NAFTA, FTAA, the Korean FTA, the Colombian FTA and CAFTA; and

WHEREAS the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) was ratified by a narrow margin in a referendum vote on October 7, 2007 that was fraught with irregularities and election law violations; and

WHEREAS the fight against implementation of CAFTA in Costa Rica is still on-going — only a few of the 13 required implementing laws that must be approved before the trade pact can go into effect have been passed, and the March 2008 deadline for adoption had to be extended to the fall; and

WHEREAS the government of Óscar Arias has stepped up repression against union leaders in key institutions and sectors that reject and resist CAFTA and related plans to privatize insurance, social security, telecommunications, electrical distribution, the ports, healthcare and many other essential public services; and

WHEREAS eight union officers who have worked for years in public service and who are outspoken opponents of CAFTA and privatization have recently been fired or threatened with discharge from their state jobs: Alicia Vargas, Secretary of the Women Workers section of the Staff Union of the National Insurance Institute (UPINS); Luis Salas, General Secretary of UPINS and the Central Labor Council (CGT); Fabio Chavez, General Secretary, and Executive Board members Francisco Aguilar and Jorge Vega, of the Association of Employees of the Costa Rican Institute of Electricity (ASDEICE); Jose Luis Castillo, Financial Secretary of the port workers union in Limon and Moín (SINTRAJAP); and David Morera, Financial Secretary, and Marvin Marin, Secretary of International Affairs, of the Union of Health and Social Security (SISSS).

WHEREAS many of the pretexts given for the disciplinary actions against these individuals relate directly to their union activities: using contractually authorized paid union leave to gather information on the effects of free trade agreements on other countries (Vargas and Salas); participating in a mass rally against privatization that temporarily blocked the entrance to the Electrical Institute (Chavez, Aguilar and Vega); talking with security officers who prevented delegations from labor and student organizations from entering a hospital to deliver a solidarity statement to an assembly of employees (Morera); and participating in a labor-management meeting to settle hospital employee grievances (Marín); and

WHEREAS these reprisals are taking place despite prior letters from the President of the AFL-CIO, the Washington State Labor Council, and a number of other U.S. labor councils and union organizations urging the President of Costa Rica to protect the rights of citizens to participate in union activities and public protests without fear of reprisals; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council stands in solidarity with the Costa Rican labor movement in its on-going struggle against implementation of CAFTA and against unwarranted punishment of its leaders for carrying on that fight; and be it further

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council send a letter calling on the government of Costa Rica to stop retaliatory disciplinary proceedings against the trade union leaders, including those mentioned in this resolution, and to reinstate those whose discharges have become final; and be it finally

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Washington State Labor Council and the AFL-CIO urging their adoption.

**Resolution supporting increased funding for the King County Reemployment Support Center - Adopted 7/16/08**

WHEREAS the M.L. King Jr. County Labor Council's *King County Reemployment Support Center* program has served with distinction thousands of King County's unemployed and dislocated workers since 1987; and

WHEREAS the employees of the *King County Reemployment Support Center* program have been represented by OPEIU Local #8 since its inception; and

WHEREAS the *King County Reemployment Support Center* program has been recognized as a "Best Practice" Rapid Response Team partner in 2000 by the United States Department of Labor, California AFL-CIO and California State Job Training Partnership Division, in 2001/2002 by the Washington State Workforce Development Providers, and in 2006 by the Washington State Employment Security Department; and

WHEREAS the *King County Reemployment Support Center* program has never had an increase in funding from the Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development since it's establishment by the Washington State Legislature in 1987; and

WHEREAS the *King County Reemployment Support Center* program cannot continue to provide the current level of services to unemployed and dislocated workers without an increase in state funding support, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the MLKCLC ask the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO to make increased funding for the *King County Reemployment Support Center* program from the State of Washington a top priority of it's Legislative Agenda for the 2009 session of the Washington State Legislature, and be it further

RESOLVED that the MLKCLC ask the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO to aggressively lobby the Washington State Legislature to include increased funding for the *King County Reemployment Support Center* program in the 2009-2011 Budget.

**Resolution supporting funding for the University of Washington Labor Archives - Adopted 7/16/08**

WHEREAS working people and their unions built this state and this nation. If that understanding is lost, the labor movement will weaken and democracy itself could be threatened. History matters and it needs to be preserved and used; and

WHEREAS for decades the University of Washington Special Collections Library has served as the repository for the records of the State Labor Council, several county labor councils (including the M. L. King County Labor Council), and many unions, leaders, and activists; and

WHEREAS this library has suffered funding cut-backs and for some time has been unable to process donated collections meaning that vital historical documents remain inaccessible, raising the concern that other materials will not find a home at the major research library of the Pacific Northwest and that history will be lost; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Washington labor community supports a campaign to raise funds to create the Washington Labor Archives (WLA) at the University of Washington Library; and be it further

RESOLVED that the WLA will combine the dozens of labor collections already housed in the library with new collections that will be added in the years ahead and that the WLA will be managed by a professional labor archivist who will be employed by the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies at UW; and be it further  
RESOLVED that the labor archivist will supervise the development of the Labor Archive, adding to and organizing the historical materials already deposited in Special Collections Library, that the labor archivist will also work with unions, advising them on records management and arranging for the donation and processing of materials to the Labor Archive and, in addition, the labor archivist will develop educational projects and materials that will be widely accessible to union members, schools, and the general public and will be both a repository and a vehicle for teaching about the vital history and vital presence of unions in our region; and be it further  
RESOLVED that the Washington labor community will assist in fundraising \$100,000 per year to pay salary and benefits for a labor archivist and also fund an ongoing program of labor heritage and labor education events that will guarantee at least five years of funding until the WLA is able to have a permanent endowment in place and is able to attract grants from foundations and governmental sources; and be it finally  
RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council requests that the Washington labor community adopt this resolution at the Washington State Labor Council convention, August, 2008.

**Resolution supporting the October 10, 2008 Green Careers Expo - Adopted  
8/20/08**

WHEREAS the Green Industrial Business and Career Expo (the Expo) is co-hosted by the Manufacturing Industrial Council, the National Wildlife Federation, South Seattle Community College District, Canada-America Society, and the Washington Apollo Alliance; and

WHEREAS the coordinating agency of the Washington Apollo Alliance is the Worker Center division of the M.L. King County Labor Council, AFL-CIO; and

WHEREAS the Washington Apollo Alliance has been successful in furthering key goals of the Council including, but not limited to, an expansion of opportunities for union jobs in a clean energy economy through active coordination and participation in:

- crafting a policy concept, later passed in the State Legislature as HB 2815 (Climate Action and Green Jobs Law), that ensures a targeted funding account in the State Treasury for the training and curricula standards of what will be known to the State of Washington as “green jobs”

- Governor’s Climate Action Team Implementation Working Group for energy efficiency—Washington Apollo Alliance is working to ensure quality training, craftsmanship, and public disclosure standards regarding any incentive mechanisms proposed for energy efficiency improvements in the built environment

- ensuring union participation and training and job standards in a King County Council green jobs initiative and town hall

- WDC of Seattle/King County skill panel on green construction and design/build

- Community and technical college advisory committees

- WIRED Initiative construction panel, Pacific Mountain Alliance for Innovation

— Good Green Jobs conference at UW on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008; and

WHEREAS a primary goal of the Expo, since the event will be held on an in-service day for public school employees, is to generate an in-earnest commitment by public school officials to implement a plan urged by the State to establish occupational skills center(s) within the Seattle Public Schools; and

WHEREAS another primary goal of the Expo is to highlight the attractiveness of the greater Seattle area as a regional industrial hub for the manufacture, distribution, and construction of green technologies and components; and

WHEREAS the aforementioned are also goals of the Council; and

WHEREAS committed corporate sponsors/exhibitors of the Expo include major signatory employers of affiliates of the Council, including Boeing, Paccar, Foss, Port of Seattle, Puget Sound Energy, Snohomish County PUD, King County Metro, and others; and

WHEREAS many of the Expo's exhibits will be the joint labor-management apprenticeship programs of affiliates of the Labor Council; and

WHEREAS sponsorship of the Expo represents a significant opportunity for the Labor Council to emphasize its national leading-edge position in a "green" labor movement and its notable contribution to the definition of "green jobs," in terms of job quality standards, workers' rights, training, and employer relations that must always have the concerted input of labor in order for green jobs to be good jobs; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M.L. King County Labor Council shall sponsor the Green Industrial Business Careers Expo at the Bronze Level or higher, up to \$300.

#### **Resolution supporting WFSE Local 1488 - Adopted 8/20/08**

WHEREAS collective bargaining was enacted by the Legislature in 2002; and  
WHEREAS WFSE has successfully negotiated contracts with the University of Washington; and

WHEREAS with the rising cost of fuel, housing, food and transportation, the standard of living has steadily declined; and

WHEREAS WFSE Local 1488 is currently in contract negotiations with the University of Washington in an effort to improve their working conditions and obtain a livable wage for their members; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M.L. King County Labor Council will endorse and support a rally of WFSE Local 1488 in their efforts to obtain the best contract for their members; and be it further

RESOLVED that David Freiboth or a designated representative from the M.L. King County Labor Council will speak at the rally in support of Local 1488 in their fight for a strong and fair contract; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the M.L. King County Labor Council will call upon all AFL-CIO labor unions in King County to turn out their support for the rally at the University of Washington/Harborview Medical Center on Thursday, August 21, 2008.

#### **Resolution supporting the Pike Place Market/Seattle Proposition 1 - Adopted 9/17/08**

WHEREAS the Pike Place Market has been a treasured landmark since it was founded by the City of Seattle in 1907; and

WHEREAS over 10 million visitors and customers visit Pike Place Market every year, generating critical tax revenue for the City of Seattle, but also taking a heavy toll on the 100 year old Market buildings; and

WHEREAS the Pike Place Market is in need of major repairs to, and replacement of, its basic infrastructure, including plumbing, mechanical and electrical systems, roofs, windows, floors, building facades, and seismic and fire safety systems; and

WHEREAS the Mayor of the City of Seattle proposed and the Seattle City Council approved a six-year property tax levy totaling \$73 million for the 2008 ballot to fund major repairs and infrastructure improvements to the Pike Place Market; and

WHEREAS the renovation work will also help make the Market more accessible, safe and comfortable for patrons and merchants by adding new public restrooms and elevators; and

WHEREAS the renovation work will be done using environmentally responsible methods and materials whenever possible with an aim toward achieving high sustainability standards; and

WHEREAS this levy will provide the necessary investment to maintain the charm and uniqueness of Pike Place Market and keep it running for decades to come; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council supports the city-wide property tax levy to make necessary improvements to Pike Place Market and will encourage our friends and neighbors to vote YES on Seattle Proposition 1 to support our Market this November.

### **Resolution opposing the bailout of the bad debts of the financial industry - Adopted 10/1/08**

WHEREAS the Bush Administration has proposed that the federal government provide \$700 billion to bail out the financial entities which are facing huge losses due to their market manipulation and speculation; and

WHEREAS this proposed bailout will fall on the shoulders of the working class, some \$2,000.00 for every man, woman and child in America – on top of the \$3 trillion debt imposed on us by the two unending wars; and

WHEREAS thus the proposed bailout will result in the same market manipulators profiting from the taxpayer-financed bailout while millions of everyday Americans continue to face bankruptcy and foreclosure -- loss of jobs, income and habitat; and WHEREAS the people don't run Wall Street, but indeed Wall Street runs much of the world, and has created this crisis; and

WHEREAS the leaders of this economy oppose even minimal government assistance for the people, but demand it by the billions for themselves when they run into trouble caused by their own greed; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council – representing the members of the 125 local and regional labor organizations and, thus, thus representing 75,000 union members and their households – stands opposed to any taxpayer-financed bailout of

the shareholders and executives of the financial giants who have created this crisis and of the speculators who have put all of us at risk; and be it further

RESOLVED that we demand of our Congressional representatives that there be a strict prohibition on profiting from this crisis at taxpayer expense, and be it further

RESOLVED that the government provide long-term relief for unemployed and underemployed workers, provide government-controlled public investment in rebuilding America's infrastructure and disaster areas to put people to work and restore our communities, impose a moratorium on home foreclosures for homeowners, and require of Wall Street firms that they suffer the losses they are so eager for the taxpayers to assume, and impose strict regulations on Wall Street businesses that finance our economy; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be communicated in its substance and content to the Congressional representatives from King County; and be it finally

RESOLVED that this resolution be copied to regional CLC's, and the Washington State Labor Council, and to the national AFL-CIO.

### **Resolution supporting labor representation on community college board of trustees - Adopted 11/5/08**

WHEREAS RCW 28B.50.100 requires that, in making appointments to the boards of trustees of community college districts, "the governor shall give consideration to geographical diversity, and representing labor, business, women, and racial and ethnic minorities, in the membership of the boards of trustees. The boards of trustees for districts containing technical colleges shall include at least one member from business and one member from labor;" and

WHEREAS notwithstanding the directive to consider representation of labor on the board of trustees, labor is chronically unrepresented on many community college boards of trustees, including Seattle Community College Board of Trustees, despite the fact that unions represent over 20% of the active workforce in Washington; and

WHEREAS when Governor Gregoire announced the appointment of trustees to fill 20 community college board vacancies in September of 2007, there were no representatives of labor included on the list; and

WHEREAS labor representation is appropriate and necessary to insure the interests of students and staff are represented in policy decisions that affect them and their futures, including whether course offerings and staffing levels are adequate to maintain a high quality education and decent working conditions at the college; and

WHEREAS the community colleges provide training through vocational and apprenticeship programs that are related to occupations in which labor representatives have important expertise with respect to what skills are needed by student to successfully meet job requirements; and

WHEREAS amendment of RCW 28B.50.100 is required to insure that all community college districts, and not just those including technical colleges, have labor representatives on their boards of trustees; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council recommends that the Washington State Labor Council develop a position that provides for labor representation on community college district boards of trustees.

**Resolution supporting the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending - Adopted 11/5/08**

WHEREAS the Predatory Lending coalition exists in order to pass fair and reasonable consumer protections from predatory lending that will reduce poverty and create safer and stronger communities in Washington State; and  
WHEREAS lending should help build a future not destroy it with triple digit interest rates and downward spirals of debt; and  
WHEREAS it is unjust to prey upon anyone based on race, economic status, age, health or immigration status in order to make a profit; and  
WHEREAS predatory payday lending is prohibited in 13 states; and  
WHEREAS the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending has recently broadened their scope beyond payday lending to include mortgage loans and refund anticipation loans; and  
WHEREAS the Seattle Women's Commission had previously endorsed and recently updated that endorsement for the larger campaign; and  
WHEREAS WFSE Local 304 Women's Committee and Education Committee moved to support endorsement of the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending and subsequently the membership of WFSE Local 304 voted to support and advocate this issue; and  
WHEREAS the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, endorsed to send this resolution to their affiliates and encourage them to endorse the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending; be it therefore  
RESOLVED that we support passing legislation against predatory lending; and be it further  
RESOLVED that we support and endorse the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending; and be it finally  
RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council send this resolution to its affiliates and encourage them to endorse the Alliance to Prevent Predatory Lending and educate members.

**Resolution regarding King County's 2009 budget/Equal Benefits Coordinator - Adopted 11/5/08**

WHEREAS King County's Equal Benefits Coordinator is charged with overseeing compliance with the County's Equal Benefits Ordinance 14823, requiring contractors with the County to provide domestic partnership benefits equal to the benefits they provide to married spouses; and  
WHEREAS domestic partnership benefits may be the only vehicle available for LGBT working people to provide healthcare, pensions, and other benefits to their families; and  
WHEREAS domestic partnership benefits are a step towards full equality for LGBT workers and their families, and equal compensation for equal work; and  
WHEREAS domestic partnerships are recognized by Washington state law and King County ordinance; and  
WHEREAS lacking active oversight by a County employee, many LGBT working people may be denied their legal right to domestic partnership benefits; and

WHEREAS the County's Equal Benefits Coordinator also acts as a public resource, providing information and technical advice on domestic partnership benefits to the City of Seattle and Port of Seattle; and

WHEREAS the M. L. King County Labor Council (MLKCLC) is a long-standing ally of the LGBT community in gaining recognition for domestic partnerships and securing domestic partnership benefits; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the MLKCLC opposes elimination of the position of King County Equal Benefits Coordinator from the County's 2009 Budget, and be it further

RESOLVED that the MLKCLC will communicate its opposition to the King County Executive and the members of the King County Council, and be it finally

RESOLVED that the MLKCLC will communicate this resolution to its affiliates.

### **Resolution supporting Convention Center expansion - Adopted 11/5/08**

WHEREAS for the last 20 years, the Washington State Convention and Trade Center ("Center") has been a successful civic and economic investment and partner attracting business and tourism to our region; and

WHEREAS expansion of the Convention Center is critical to the revitalization of downtown Seattle, the economic health of our entire region and increased sales tax revenue to Washington State, City of Seattle and King County; and

WHEREAS demand continues to grow for high-quality exhibition and meeting spaces, especially for associations in the medical, scientific and technical fields, and since 2004, over \$1.7 billion in business has been lost due to the inadequate size of the existing building or from lack of available dates; and

WHEREAS with annual spending by convention delegates nearing \$300 million and net cash flow to the state at \$28 million in fiscal 2007, the financial impact for each and every community in Washington is significant and can grow with the expansion of the Center; and

WHEREAS in its 20 years of operation, \$3.2 billion in out-of-state convention delegate spending, from events held at the Center, has gone directly to the State General fund; and

WHEREAS a feasibility analysis is underway to consider building a new Center of similar capacity with exhibit, meeting, ballroom and dock/freight spaces on a county-owned site at the Convention Place Bus Station, located one block from the existing Center, and this additional facility can be funded through the existing hotel/motel tax revenue stream without imposing a burden on state and local government or taxpayers; and

WHEREAS the long term economic benefits of Convention Center expansion are compelling and include:

- Major construction development of a two-block site with possible co-development options
- 2500 new jobs and 2000 construction jobs
- Increased area hotel construction to support a second Convention Center
- Continued physical and economic revitalization of Seattle downtown
- Increased tourism spending across Washington State
- More convention delegates and corresponding increase in delegate spending; and

WHEREAS the Center's reserves, along with the existing hotel/motel tax revenues, will cover the entire cost of expansion, without imposing any burden on state and local government or taxpayers, and resources of available land and affordable financing are currently available and may not be in the future; be it therefore

RESOLVED that this investment in our future, which is paid for by non-residents and which produces positive net benefit without any obligations on those proceeds, be strongly supported by the M. L. King County Labor Council and its affiliates; and be it further

RESOLVED that the M. L. King County Labor Council forward this resolution to the Washington State Labor Council for their consideration and approval.