

August 30, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Des Moines Memorial Drive (DMMD) Advisory Committee regarding the proposed Lake to Sound Trail. The DMMD Advisory Committee was created in 2000 by an interlocal agreement between King County and the cities of Burien, Normandy Park, SeaTac, and Des Moines to advocate for preservation of the Drive and to serve as the oversight entity for preparation of a Management Plan. In addition to the five jurisdictions, the committee includes representatives from other agencies, advocacy groups, and citizen activists dedicated to achieving memorial rehabilitation.

The Management Plan establishes guidelines for comprehensive rehabilitation, enhancement and promotion of this "Living Road of Remembrance" which was created in 1921-22 to honor and memorialize men and women from Washington State who gave their lives during World War I. The original memorial, consisting of approximately ten miles of elm tree-lined brick road, has experienced many changes since the 1920s. Many trees have been lost due to disease, road and utility projects or improper pruning, and the remaining trees are reaching the end of their natural life span.

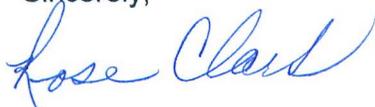
The citizens of this area have great attachment to Des Moines Memorial Drive and its history. Indeed they have resisted over time making significant changes. For this reason the committee has worked carefully to maintain the original intent of this memorial road. In the early 1960's King County widened the north end of the road taking down all of the elms in that area. King County and the American Legion together erected a granite monument listing Washington's World War 1 fallen soldiers. It still stands today on the west side of the intersection of Des Moines Memorial Drive and 156<sup>th</sup> directly right across the street from the location where the Lake to Sound Trail will intersect with Des Moines Memorial Drive.

As it stands currently, we are pleased with the proposal by Lake to Sound Trail proponents to plant 16 – 22 disease resistant Memorial Elms along the drive on the east side of the trail. In addition to the trees, there will be places along the drive that will accommodate other memorial elements especially visible markers such, as columns, along the drive. Also lighting would be needed for safety and it is our understanding that along DMMD light standards would have the ability to display flags/banners.

If you have questions or would like additional information please contact me at 206-909-6378 or [clarkr4@comcast.net](mailto:clarkr4@comcast.net).

Thank you for your interest in preserving and enhancing the character of the Highline community.

Sincerely,



Rose Clark  
Member, Burien City Council  
Co-Chair, Highline Forum  
Member, Des Moines Memorial Drive Advisory Committee