

HELP US HELP TAXPAYERS
"Compensation fund for Tim, Jack, & Mike

Our focus, of course, is getting "Son of last year's I-1053" I-1125 approved in November
But check out Tim's hobby: city initiatives letting voters decide on red-light cameras

Dear Fellow Taxpayer:

Last year in my hometown of Mukilteo, the city tried to bring red-light cameras and speed cameras to our community. We were knee-deep in collecting signatures for tougher-to-raise-taxes I-1053 (2/3 for tax increases, legislative approval for fee increases), but I made time to team up with a bunch of great people to sponsor the initiative. Long story short, we got the initiative on last November's ballot and voters here rejected the cameras with 71% of the vote. Wowza.

I was subsequently contacted by activists in other cities in Washington wanting to get public votes on ticketing cameras in their communities too. So last year, there was one initiative in Mukilteo – this year there are five – Bellingham, Longview, Monroe, Redmond, and Wenatchee. Every single one of them has been enormously fun, interesting, and important. Each one has its own soap opera associated with it. I could write a novel about each one, including glowing accounts of the local citizens who have done all the hard work to make them a success.

These campaigns haven't distracted me/us from our statewide initiatives. Last year's I-1053 and this year's "Son of 1053" I-1125 remain our primary focus.

Nonetheless, it's been an incredibly gratifying experience working on these local city initiatives with these local citizens. It turns out local initiatives are not utilized very often – it was only the second initiative in Mukilteo city history to get enough signatures and the first to make it through the gauntlet for a public vote. It is Wenatchee Initiative #1, Redmond Initiative #1, and Longview Initiative #1 – it is the second initiative in Monroe city history and the first initiative in 6 years in Bellingham.

To be clear, these initiatives don't prohibit automatic ticketing cameras, they simply let the voters decide. But after the 71% vote against the cameras in my hometown of Mukilteo, the efforts by cities and the red-light camera companies have been focused on blocking the people from voting. Their adage is "*since we won't win the vote, prevent the vote.*" It's really an obscene abuse of power. Fortunately, we're having great success bulldozing through their anti-vote obstruction. **In mid-August, a Bellingham judge not only dismissed the red-light camera company's motion to block the vote on the initiative, but the judge slapped the company with a huge a \$10,000 fine for even bringing the lawsuit and forced them to pay the attorneys fees for the initiative campaign.**

For cities, ticketing cameras are like crack cocaine, once they get hooked on them, they can't get off (newspapers are illustrating it: ***Lynnwood chief: Police jobs depend on enforcement cameras -- Chief concedes his department relies on millions in ticket revenue, EVERETT HERALD, August 18th, 2011***). It's a policy based on a lie – politicians claim it's not about the money when it clearly is. To me, ticketing cameras are taxation-through-citation, just another way for government to pick-pocket the taxpayers. **Worst of all, the more lawbreakers there are, the more money they make, providing a sick incentive for the cities and camera companies to INCREASE, NOT DECREASE, the number of lawbreakers.**

But again, our local initiatives aren't about whether cameras are good or bad, but they're about who should decide: the people or the politicians. We think politicians have a built-in conflict-of-interest:

they're getting the money so they can't be objective. The people have no such conflict: they can weigh the sacrifice of their civil liberties and violation of their constitutional rights against the supposed safety benefits of cameras.

As long as our supporters continue to contribute to our statewide efforts, your support will allow Jack, Mike, and I to continue being activists for many different causes. There's nothing more gratifying to us than fighting for causes we believe in and letting the voters decide.

Our compensation is voluntary – we only earn what our supporters are willing to give

If you appreciate our efforts and want us to continue, please contribute to our compensation fund to allow us to keep fighting for taxpayers. You can go contribute online by PayPal, VISA, or M/C (www.VotersWantMoreChoices). Or, you can fill out the form below and send us a check or credit card donation of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, \$2500, \$5000 or more (there are no limits on the amount that can be given). **Either way, please send in your most generous donation RIGHT NOW.** And please consider a monthly contribution through the end of December for our fund. We ask you to please help us help taxpayers.

Congratulations again on Initiative 1125. **As for our compensation fund, we would be extremely grateful for any financial assistance you can offer.**

Best Regards, Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 15 Years

P.S. There are thousands of politicians, bureaucrats, lobbyists, and special interest groups working each and every day to raise your taxes. Shouldn't there be at least one person, one team, one organization that fights to lower your taxes? Please help us so we can continue our successful efforts on behalf of taxpayers.

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Guys, I really appreciate what you're doing – keep fighting for us. Please accept my contribution for \$ _____

Please supply the information below so we can send you a thank you letter (it's really important to fill this out).

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Address _____

City, State, Zip, Phone # _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ **Made payable to "Help Us Help Taxpayers"**

Occupation _____ Employer & Employer zip code _____

VISA or M/C number _____ Exp. date (MM/YY) ____ / ____ Amt. \$ _____

CRITICAL: Email address (please print clearly) _____

Voluntary donations to "Help Us Help Taxpayers" are not tax-deductible. Voluntary donations to "Help Us Help Taxpayers" are political donations that will be used to compensate Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan for their effective political work on behalf of taxpayers.