



PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

16-05

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2016, a semi-truck hauling an oversize load of two excavators on Interstate 5 struck the Chamber Way bridge overpass in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the impact to the overpass caused significant structural damage to all six of its concrete girders, resulting in closure of the overpass for the safety of the travelling public until repairs can be completed; and

WHEREAS, the overpass repairs may take several months because each damaged bridge part is unique and integral to the overall strength of the bridge, and time is required to design and construct replacement components; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost to repair the damage from the collision is \$6,000,000, and emergency conditions will continue to require the use of alternate routes for several months until repairs are made, requiring the approval of Washington's Secretary of Transportation to commence work immediately to repair the overpass through the implementation of emergency procurement procedures to alleviate impacts to public safety; and

WHEREAS, state agencies and local jurisdictions are coordinating resources to address alternate routes, impacts to the traveling public, and health and safety issues resulting from the closure of the Chamber Way overpass; and

WHEREAS, the damage to the overpass and its effects continue to impact the life and health of our citizens, as well as the property and transportation infrastructure of Washington State, and is a public disaster that affects life, health, property, or the public peace.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay R. Inslee, Governor of the State of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation and under Chapters 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Lewis County in the state of Washington, and direct the plans and procedures in the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency*

Management Plan be implemented. State agencies and departments are directed to utilize state resources and to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the events.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington on this _____ day of July, A.D., Two Thousand and Sixteen at Olympia, Washington.

By:

Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Secretary of State