

September 28, 2004

Distribution to: RCC Members

Subject: Transmittal of CRC Project Draft Working Paper 5.2

Attached for your review and comment is: **Review Draft – Working Paper 5.2, Toll Collection Options**

WP 5.2 assesses the operational impacts of collecting tolls for one or both bridges and for northbound, southbound, or both directions. Based on current trends and state of technology, 100% electronic toll collection that eliminates the need for toll plazas is not considered an option for the Columbia River Crossings. Toll plazas will require large footprints and finding suitable sites for the plazas in the Vancouver and Portland urban settings will be a challenge. Collecting tolls in one direction is typically more cost effective for operations than collecting both directions. However, if only I-5 is tolled, collecting tolls in both directions will help reduce trip diversion.

This paper recommends that if both I-5 and I-205 are tolled, that tolls be collected in the southbound direction in either Washington or Oregon. If only I-5 is tolled, the recommendation is to collect tolls in both directions.

The information in this working paper is the second of three working papers aimed at identifying tolling rate options that demonstrate the material differences in tolling policy, revenue generation, and impacts of potentially tolling one or both of the interstate river crossings. If you have questions about how this fits with other technical analyses under way, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would appreciate receiving your comments on the draft document by October 5.

Regards,

Doug Ficco, Project Director
WSDOT
360-905-2023

Rob DeGraff, Project Director
ODOT
503-731-8461

Attachment