

From: [Laird Heater](#)
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Subject: Columbia River Bridge
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I have been to several of the open houses and hearings, and it all seems so short sighted or special interest motivated.

I was crossing the Interstate to go to Clark College in the 60's when it was a toll bridge. At 20 yrs old, I thought they should have kept it a toll bridge to pay for maintenance and eventual replacement. But what does a 20 yr old know ?

What ever is done with the current bridge is not going to be a long term solution. Nobody seems to want to address what's going to happen when the added flow of vehicles hits the Rose Quarter or the Sunset tunnel. That doesn't seem very smart.

The notion of making the crossing more difficult will reduce cars will only work to a very limited degree.
PEOPLE ARE NOT GOING TO GIVE UP THEIR CARS.

MY SUGGESTIONS:

UPGRADE THE INTERSTATE BRIDGE AND MAKE IT A TOLL BRIDGE. - EXEMPT LONG HAUL TRUCKERS (these are the life blood of our economy and they have no alternative.)

PUT ALL OUR EFFORTS INTO CREATING A NEW BRIDGE THAT WILL ACT MUCH LIKE THE 205.
MAYBE START IT AT THE 205 / I-5 INTERCHANGE IN WASHINGTON, BRING IT ACROSS KELLY POINT AND THEN CROSS THE WILLAMETTE AND GO TO HILLSBORO.

A NEW BRIDGE IS INEVITABLE, BUT BY THE TIME WE ADDRESS IT, IT WILL BE TOO LATE

A freeway was planned in the early 60's to go from Hillsboro to either Woodburn or Wilsonville.

This was planning for the future.

Sunset Highway was also widened to 4 lanes out to Banks in 1962, and nothing more was done until the last couple of years.

The argument is that it would be too expensive, yet they are doing monster Federal projects in other cities. If they think it's expensive now, what will it be like in 20 years when they must purchase more developed land. And I'm sure the Federal government can be prompted as the I-5 corridor comes to a standstill.

FASINATION WITH TROLLIES

This seems like Adams is creating a legacy for himself (I believe Katz did that)
What if trolleys and Max was run across the river 10 years ago. The would have missed the development by the Ross Island.

We had trolleys all over Portland, but the proved costly and couldn't adapt to changes in demographics.

We need some with foresight and the guts to get a real solution done.

Laird Heater

Realtor

No relatives or friends in trucking

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