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Subject: Comment from CRC Submit Comments Page
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 1:39:34 PM
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From: Robert Sanders
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Comment or Question:

I was very encouraged by the resolution put forward yesterday by Metro Councilors Robert Liberty, Carl Hosticka and Carlota Collette that calls for a light rail and toll to upgrade the existing bridge. Getting existing Vancouver / Portland commuters off the road and onto a train will free up lanes for freight traffic. Two reasons I offer why rail and not road is the right solution: 1) look at the congestion in Northern Virginia & Washington DC today after pursuing 20 years of road expansion policy... it's worse now. Lets learn from the mistakes made by Atlanta / Washington DC / LA. More lanes = more cars. Freeing one area of congestion (bridge) only shifts the congestion to other areas, but the car problem persists. I'm not at all in favor a larger wad of cars arriving in Portland at 8:30 every morning trying to get on the 405 or out 26 or arriving on the streets downtown. The goal should be to reduce the total # of cars on the road. 2) All great cities have trains: NYC, London, Paris - why? because it's the best solution for moving people back and forth and it allows a city / metro area to scale in a way roads alone cannot.

Finally - why do the OR HOV /carpool lanes end before the crossing? If the HOV lane extends all the way to Vancouver more people will carpool and the total #'s of cars will be reduced.