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Subject: DEIS Document Viewer Feedback
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 9:00:51 AM
Attachments:



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Section: Draft Environmental Impact Statement
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Comment or Question:

Whichever proposal is adopted there a couple things to keep in mind from a Clark County resident's point of view.

Mass transit options are extremely limited. I can not afford to spend 1 3/4 hours each way on the bus just to get from Vancouver Mall to inner NE Portland to go to work. Just from the expo center to work (4.8 miles) the tri-met fair planner quotes a 49 minute trip that includes 6 minutes of walking. I've planned it out and it would make my commute and work time nearly 13 hours per day to leave my car at home. Trying to force commuters to overcrowded mass transit is unreasonable. I have to have my car for work each day. Most people who can take mass transit do. I can not and it bothers me that although I provide a vital service to the Portland community I am a target to be penalized.

I work in Oregon and I pay Oregon taxes. For Oregon to cite a strain on your budget, consider the strain on the taxpayers who live in Washington, yet foot the Oregon taxpayer bill.

To put a toll on I-5 would simply switch massive amounts of traffic to an already taxed I-205 and reduce the ability for commerce even further, yet again raising prices for consumers.

It took nearly 30 years of bickering between the states for I-205 to be built and by the time it was built it was obvious that it was undersized. That was 16 years ago.

Why does the commission find it necessary to continue spending taxpayer money to research something that everyone knows is badly needed to support our NW economy? Why does the commuter have to be penalized for wanting to contribute to their community by holding meaningful, living wage jobs? They are stifled by the commissions continuous delay of this project.

I think its wonderful when a commuter can make mass transit or bicycles part of their commute. Not everyone can. Many commuters already carpool, leave early to reduce congestion, work flexible schedules as employer allow, and yet we are faced with waiting another 10 years before indecisive government officials make a decision that they KNOW is inevitable.

Build the bridge! In fact build two...put another from Camas to Gresham!