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Columbia River Crossing

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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING

ORIGINAL

Public Hearing

May 28, 2008

Red Lion Inn at the Quay

Vancouver, Washington

SPOKEN COMMENTS

COURT REPORTER: Michael R. King, WA CSR 57732

CRC - 5.28.08

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1           Why on earth they want to put something down I-5,  
2 which is 50 years overdue, is like closing the barn door after  
3 the horses are out.

4           I think that's it.

5           MITCH GOULD: Councilors, my name is Mitch Gould, and  
6 I live in North Portland, at 7551 North Woolsey Avenue.

7           Thank you for this opportunity to  comment on the  
8 proposed I-5 bridge plans.

9           There are many reasons that I oppose expansion of the  
10 I-5 bridge to handle more traffic, but three are paramount.

11           1. First, the nation is currently experiencing a  
12 serious recession of uncertain duration. This is a good time  
13 to be prudent with public money, but some of the bridge  
14 proposals represent astronomical outlays and are liable to  
15 incur overruns. I will not even try to address the complicated  
16 matter of how bridge expansion is to be paid for.

17           2. Second, the city of Portland long ago committed  
18 itself to addressing the climate crisis, but an expanded bridge  
19 is viewed by many as an invitation to increase our greenhouse  
20 gas emissions. I'm sure you know that the citizens whom you  
21 represent are desperately worried about the frightening changes  
22 which have already been set in motion. We expect you to honor  
23 the city's existing commitments and take this crisis at least  
24 as seriously as we do.

25           3. Third, these plans seem to reflect the dream

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1 world of the past, when our cherished hope was for more growth,  
2 more goods and services, more development and more  
3 transportation, and everyone's foot on the pedal. I hardly  
4 need to remind you that gasoline is no longer cheap. Motorists  
5 have already begun to throttle back on their driving. These  
6 schemes are predicated on an increase in traffic, but it is  
7 only reasonable to predict that traffic will decline.

8 I am relieved to know that some of our Metro  
9 councilors understand these issues far better than I do and are  
10 leading the way towards the best alternatives. It's  
11 particularly reassuring to have leadership from Robert Liberty,  
12 but I appreciate the knowledge and dedication of all our  
13 officials, and I feel confident that when the facts are all in,  
14 we will do the right thing.

15 Thank you.

16 DORIS COTTEN: I would like to have light rail come  
17 over so we could actually get to Portland without a whole bunch  
18 of hassle, since there is no jobs over here, and then make more  
19 jobs.

20 It would be nice to take a bike or walk across the  
21 bridge. Yeah, the way that -- I told that lady that the next  
22 earthquake we have, that bridge is coming down and she just  
23 laughed at me.

24 What do you think?

25 We really need it because the -- well, I lived in

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WASHINGTON )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Clark        )

I, Michael R. King, a Notary Public for Washington, certify that the at the time and place set forth in the caption hereof I reported in Stenotype all Spoken Comments adduced and other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced to typewriting under my direction; and the foregoing transcript, pages 2 to 9, both inclusive, contains a full, true and correct record of all such testimony adduced and oral proceedings had and of the whole thereof.

I further advise you that as a matter of firm policy, the Stenographic notes of this transcript will be destroyed three years from the date appearing on this Certificate unless notice is received otherwise from any party or counsel hereto on or before said date;

Witness my hand and notarial seal at Corbett, Oregon, this 30th day of May 2008.

Michael R. King, CSR  
License No. 2655  
My notary commission expires: 2-5-11

