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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DRAFT EIS
PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

RED LION HOTEL
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

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1 ability to pronounce your names. And
2 recognize that I have been the subject of
3 mispronunciations repeatedly myself. I am
4 not doing this on purpose. Okay.

5 Ron Swaren, Sharon Nassat, John
6 Haugen, Paul Edgar, Kim Dalton, Jim
7 Karock.

8 I don't know if the folks lined up in
9 the order that I called their names.

10 SPEAKER: We're trying.

11 HAL DENGERRINK: That's fine. All
12 right. We're okay. All right. Okay.
13 We're going to go ahead and start with you
14 and remember your name, your address and
15 your --

16 RON SWAREN: My name is Ron
17 Swaren. I live in Portland at 1543
18 Southeast Umatilla. The alternative that
19 I'm in favor of is one that was in the I-5
20 partnership called the Western Arterial.

21 I think it's kind of inappropriate to
22 have two Columbia Crossings that go into
23 East portland and none that go into the
24 West Side. The Portland area has
25 equivalent growth on both sides of the



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1 Willamette and we are trying to cram all
2 the traffic through this Western Oregon
3 Corridor into the East Side of Portland.
4 So that is my preferred alternative.

5 I think there is some issues with the
6 points that you raised for replacing the
7 current I-5 bridge. One, it's maintained
8 that they are seismically unsafe.

9 I have an artist rendition of what is
10 proposed. I will hold it up so people can
11 see it. This is heavy concrete decks on
12 pilings. I have read some commentary by
13 people in the San Francisco Bay Area.
14 They feel that that is the most unsafe
15 type of structure for freeways and
16 bridges.

17 In the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake,
18 of the structures that were damaged, there
19 was one metal structure, the Oakland Bay
20 Bridge where there was some damage where
21 some bolts sheered. No one was killed in
22 that collapse.

23 However, there were several
24 structures that were reinforced concrete
25 that gave way. The Cypress Viaduct in

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1 West Oakland collapsed. It was a concrete
2 structure. 40 people died. The
3 Embarcadero freeway suffered so much
4 damage that it was removed. And then the
5 southern freeway Interstate 280 suffered
6 severe damage. Those are all reinforced
7 concrete. State Route 1 in Watsonville
8 also suffered severe damage. The Central
9 Freeway US Route 101 suffered extensive
10 damage.

11 I know that there is a problem with
12 projected extra traffic on I-5; however,
13 just fixing one point I don't think is
14 going to solve the problem. I know for a
15 fact that the Freeway Loop Advisory
16 Committee has bigger plans.

17 So the bottom line is do residents of
18 this area want to see 10 or 20 years of
19 projects trying to resuscitate the I-5
20 when there is another alternative that
21 would relieve pressure from the I-5 and
22 that is the Western Arterial. And that is
23 what one of the alternatives that your
24 group was mandated to study.

25 HAL DINGERINK: Thank you.

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
County of Clark)

I, Cathy S. Taylor, a notary public for the State of Washington do hereby certify that I transcribed to the best of my ability said proceedings written by me in machine shorthand and thereafter reduced to typewriting; and that the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of said proceedings and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and notarial seal
this 16th day of June, 2008.

Cathy S. Taylor, RPR, CSR
Notary Public for the State of Washington
My Commission expires April 15, 2009