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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DRAFT EIS  
PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

RED LION HOTEL  
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

00081

1 tracks. I don't think it brings the city  
2 together.

3 The cost -- I mean, people wonder why  
4 this thing is being pushed forward. This  
5 is all about money. This is money for  
6 developers. This is money for  
7 construction workers. This is money for  
8 everybody but the people that actually  
9 have to use it.

10 The subsidies that have to actually  
11 operate the system are so large that -- I  
12 mean, I would be surprised if one percent  
13 of the cost was actually carried by the  
14 rider on a light rail system. It just  
15 doesn't make sense.

16 Thank you.

17 HAL DINGERINK: Thank you, John.  
18 Daniel.

19 DANIEL SWINK: My name is Daniel  
20 Swink, mailing address P.O. Box 61884,  
21 Vancouver, Washington.



22 I'm also an income taxpayer of Oregon  
23 as well as a resident of Vancouver and I  
24 grew up around seeing a lot of -- well,  
25 Washington transportation projects

00082

1 developed right in my front yard in the  
2 past, including Interstate 90.

3 And I have attended many of these  
4 meetings with the River Crossing Project  
5 and has been observing what's going on  
6 with the media regarding this project and  
7 the outreach to the public. And from my  
8 observations and my experience with the  
9 meetings is that -- as many other people  
10 have mentioned here, it seems to be -- the  
11 lines seem to be pretty made up in terms  
12 of what options we are going to look at  
13 with this project, how it's going to be  
14 put forth, and there seems to be a lot of  
15 vague information about where -- how this  
16 project is going to get paid for.

17 It seems to be tending to gravitate  
18 towards grabbing the money that is  
19 available from the Federal Government.  
20 Well, you have to remember the Federal  
21 Government is still us, the tax payers.  
22 So money that is coming from the Federal  
23 Government is money that is being diverted  
24 from other needed infrastructure projects  
25 as well. So any money that is being spent

00083

1 should be spent wisely because -- just  
2 because money is available does not mean  
3 we should rush to be spending it if we are  
4 not spending it appropriately for the  
5 needs that it's being set for.

6 So I am also against light rail  
7 because -- for many of the -- as many  
8 other people have mentioned here this  
9 evening, I can see where it would create  
10 an increase in crime trend in the area.  
11 And the cost of paying for this project  
12 just doesn't -- like previously here was  
13 just mentioned, it doesn't seem fathomable  
14 how it's going to be cost effective to put  
15 in such an expensive system that is so  
16 inflexible because the rails are in fixed  
17 position.

18 There are so many commuters and so  
19 many service people out there on the  
20 freeway. I have worked many jobs  
21 traveling that freeway, that commuters --  
22 even with the job I have now -- that rail  
23 system -- even the bus -- is not effective  
24 for me to commute using the rail system  
25 because I can't get to where I need to go.

00084

1 I either can't get there at all via the  
2 system that is in place or I can't get  
3 there because -- sorry, I just lost my  
4 train of thought -- because of the  
5 inflexibility of it.

6 I don't -- it doesn't seem a  
7 practical system. Whereas, if you were  
8 relying on a bus system, it's very  
9 versatile. It can change in size to  
10 accommodate the ridership that is  
11 involved. You can travel along with the  
12 cars immediately or you can create, you  
13 know, a designated lanes for it, for rapid  
14 bus transit like they were mentioning.

15 So I think that this whole project  
16 just needs to be given more public input.  
17 I see the public is kind of being shut out  
18 and the whole Environmental Impact  
19 Statement, as has been mentioned, needs to  
20 be allotted plenty of time for that review  
21 process. There is a lot of material to  
22 cover there.

23 HAL DENERINK: Thank you. Anne.

24 ANNE MCENERNY-OGLE: Good evening,  
25 Anne McEnery-Ogle, 3501 F Street.

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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