

1 husband still does. He works in Portland, and I  
2 work in Longview. In my industry, ten years, that's  
3 an unacceptable time frame. Patients die sooner  
4 than that. People are born sooner than that.  
5 People acquire illnesses and injuries. And I -- I  
6 just -- I guess it's -- I'm probably the most struck  
7 by the time lines.

8 So I support a supplemental bridge with  
9 mass transit. And I would appreciate the  
10 opportunity to use today's dollars with our people.

11 **MR. HEWITT:** Thank you.

12 Joe Baron.

13 **MR. BARON:** Good evening. My name's Joe  
14 Baron. I'm with the Pacific Northwest Regional  
15 Council of Carpenters. My address is 7624 North  
16 Willamette Boulevard, Portland, Oregon 97203.

17 I come before you to express my, and the  
18 carpenters' support, for the Columbia River Crossing  
19 Project with a light rail option. The existing  
20 Interstate Bridge is a major bottleneck between  
21 Canada and Mexico and adds hours to people's  
22 commutes every day, either coming south or going  
23 north. Slowdown means thousands of vehicles are  
24 sitting in traffic polluting the air, wasting  
25 precious fuel and people's valuable time. It is

1 imperative that materials move between manufacturing  
2 sites and their destination sites in a timely  
3 manner. Any delay adds cost to the finished  
4 product, plays havoc with the scheduling of  
5 projects.

6 Many of our members commute across the  
7 existing bridge, and the added time spent sitting in  
8 traffic could be put to better use with their  
9 families.

10 You have heard some testimony on the  
11 decline in oil production, increase in gas prices,  
12 and phasing out of fossil fuel vehicles. It doesn't  
13 matter if we burn water, wood, or garbage in our  
14 vehicles; the population will increase and people  
15 will still need to commute to work and destination  
16 spots for everyday living.

17 I support building a bridge that will take  
18 us into the future by providing enough capacity for  
19 light rail, cars, and trucks, and bicycle traffic.  
20 Build it big and build it now. Thank you.

21 **MR. HEWITT:** Thank you.

22 Joy Overstreet.

23 **MS. OVERSTREET:** My name is Joy  
24 Overstreet. I live in Vancouver in the Lakeshore  
25 area.