From: P68WA@aol.com

To: <u>Columbia River Crossing</u>;

CC:

Subject: I-5 River Crossing

**Date:** Wednesday, June 11, 2008 3:13:50 PM

**Attachments:** 

Hi,

Please accept my comments regarding the potential range a new I-5 River Crossing.

I have lived in Clark County since 1976, moving here from Beaverton with my family. During this time, I worked principally in the Portland, Beaverton, and Tigard area and lived in the Ridgefield area, we used the only bridge during that time to cross the river - the I-5 Crossing.

I appreciate all the thoughts, designs and input from everyone thus far. Many of the plans are very extensive and detailed, and some are very costly. Having crossed I-5 for many many years on a daily basis, I often wondered why we had off and on ramps to I-5 immediate before and after the bridge. It seems all this does is jam the highway at the most critical time. I think the goal is to quickly move traffic back and forth between Vancouver and Portland.

It seems to me that two new slew bridges (one in each direction) could be built from Delta Park/Expo Center to and from Jantzen Beach. This would eliminate the direct exits and on ramps at Jantzen Beach along I-5. This would relieve the congestion on the Oregon side of the bridge. In the future, a smaller bridge could be built from Jantzen Beach to Vancouver. This would be far less costly, and more importantly, the majority of this work could be done without disrupting the existing I-5 traffic.

On the Washington side, the Northbound I-5 exit to east bound SR-14 should be closed and traffic routed to SR-14 just past the railroad bridge (ie. the Downtown Vancouver Exit). We only should have ONE

exit at this location not two. Of course this would require the NEW pedestrian/bike bridge from the Fort across SR-14 relocated or eliminated (whoever approved this bridge just wasn't thinking about a new I-5 Bridge).

Please be careful with the I-5 alignment, we already have paid dearly for the curves in the original I-5 design at Delta Park, which caused numerous accidents.

Thank you.

John Warta

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