

**From:** [Ralph & Charlene Welch](#)  
**To:** [Columbia River Crossing](#);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** yes to light rail  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 17, 2008 11:36:14 AM  
**Attachments:**

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We are in favor of light rail because we are in favor of a livable connected Vancouver and Clark County. It is time for elected officials and citizens to make bold decisions that will shape our future for years to come. Light rail as part of an overall improved transportation system will bring a number of benefits. It will reduce our dependence on driving. It will promote commerce along the line. It will push us to review our land use policies. It will show our children that public transit is a useful and practical method for getting around. Our family is a middle class two car family. We can afford to drive but prefer not to whenever possible. We are raising our children to understand that walking, biking, light rail, and bus really can get you around and that driving is not the only way to go. However, many families cannot afford to drive and truly need an improved transportation system in Clark County. Let's think long term and big picture. Let's invest in an integrated and connected transportation system that benefits the families of today and the future.

We encourage CRC outreach to include more information on the potential connectivity within Clark County. We believe that light rail over the river and up Main is the way to go. We believe it sets the stage for connections both north and east within the county. Our lifestyle includes fewer and fewer trips to Portland. It will be great to be able to take light rail there when we need to. It will be really great when we can take light rail in coordination with C-Tran all around Clark County.

Sincerely,  
Ralph and Charlene Welch  
Vancouver WA