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Columbia River Crossing

Dorothy Davies  
1811 S.E. Briarwood Dr.  
Vancouver, WA 98683



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Columbia River Crossing Project Office  
700 Washington St. Suite 300  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Comment on the Project

Sirs,

There is a structural need for a new I-5 Bridge. I think we need to do just that and only that.

I think commuter buses capable of 50 passengers would take care of our needs between Vancouver and Portland.

I see NO need for light rail trains across the bridge in and out of Vancouver.

I see NO need for 12 lanes on this bridge.

We in Vancouver cannot pay the expense of a bridge and a light rail system.

Variable tolls on the bridge would take care of the cost (\$1 billion) over 30 years.

I suggest you read in the Columbian newspaper the Friday June 20, 2008 Opinion Page article by Randle O'Toole "Why pay \$4 Billion for a \$1Billion bridge." The Clark County Building Industry Association asked Mr. O'Toole (A senior fellow with Cato Institute) to propose an alternative and he did. His suggestions sound sensible and practical. When the DEIS predicts that with 12 lanes, light rail, auxiliary lanes and interchanges the traffic will still slow to less than 30 miles an hour for 5 1/2 hours a day, we haven't made any progress from right now.

Some of us on fixed incomes need those in planning and in government to be practical.

So to recap:

1. Perhaps a 6-8 lane bridge (\$1billion dollars worth)
2. NO to light rail.
3. NO to 12 lanes, auxiliary lanes and interchanges.
4. NO to \$4Billion -----\$8Billion (plus) on this project in money we don't have.

Thank you,  
Dorothy Davies