


**From:** [Marilyn Matteson](#)   
**To:** [Draft EIS Feedback;](#)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Comment: Build a new truck-only bridge  
**Date:** Monday, June 30, 2008 8:19:18 PM  
**Attachments:**

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June 30, 2008

The Columbia River Crossing alternatives look at the past, not to the future. With gas predicted to cost \$5 a gallon, more people will be taking transit and working from home. This calls for creative thinking, especially with the lack of funding sources.

Freight and delivery trucks need a new bypass bridge, which would speed freight traveling through the Portland/Vancouver area. Trucks needing to exit in Vancouver could use the existing auto bridges. The new freight-only bypass bridge could be designed to provide light rail, express bus, bike and pedestrian lanes. Tolls could be charged for freight and delivery trucks using the bridge, but other uses could be free to encourage their growth.

The two existing bridges should be renovated for use by auto traffic, which may decline over time. A toll could be placed on these bridges to pay for their renovation and discourage their use.

With any new bridge, please plan for environmental mitigation by planting trees, shrubs and other landscaping within the freeway impact zone. Provide 1 percent of the project cost for community and environmental enhancements. It is the least society can do for imposing new "improvements" like huge freeway bridges onto the land and river.

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