

# West Vancouver Freight Alliance

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## MEMORANDUM

Date: May 23, 2008

To: Paula Hammond, Transportation Secretary, Washington State  
Department of Transportation; Doug Ficco, Director, Columbia River  
Crossing Project

From: West Vancouver Freight Alliance

Cc: Governor Christine Gregoire, Hal Dengerink, Co-Chair, Columbia River  
Crossing Task Force; Mayor Royce Pollard, City of Vancouver; Councilor  
Tim Leavitt, City of Vancouver; Commissioner Steve Stewart, Clark Co.

Re: Columbia River Crossing Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Comments

Columbia River Crossing



We are an alliance of 35 industrial and transportation businesses, located or doing business in West Vancouver. Our companies employ local residents, deliver goods to local stores, supply products to local and regional business, and make up an important part of our region's economy. The following summarizes our collective comments to the Columbia River Crossing Draft Environmental Impact Statement:

### I-5 Bridge Replacement

Our businesses rely on access I-5. The current bridges create a bottleneck known for its congestion by freight transporters in our region, up and down the west coast. We support replacing the existing I-5 Bridges with a new crossing.

The existing bridges are unsafe and do not meet Federal Highway Administration design standards. The accident rate within the project area is extraordinarily high, and is of great concern to our employee's health, and that of our businesses.

### I-5 Bridge Lane Requirements

We are in support of three through lanes with three auxiliary lanes, to address the burden local deliveries and commuters place on I-5 within the Bridge Influence Area. We believe these lanes will serve our need for reliable freight and delivery trips occurring within the Bridge Influence Area. Additionally, three auxiliary lanes allow for more reliable travel times for through-traffic, by separating local deliveries from through-lanes.

Albina Fuel Co.  
Atlantic Pacific Freightways  
Bergstrom Nutrition  
Boise Cascade Building Dist.  
Cadet Manufacturing  
Columbia Metal Works  
Columbia Vista Corp.  
Firestone Inv. Family L.P.  
Food Express  
Frito-Lay  
Glacier Northwest  
Green Transfer  
Harvest Transport  
Helser Brothers  
Hydraulics Inc.  
John Alps  
LaFarge North America  
MG Transport, L.L.C.  
NALCO  
National Transfer  
Northwet Packing Co.  
PAC Paper, Inc.  
Pacific Die Casting, Inc.  
Penninsula Truck Lines  
Plastics Northwest  
Port of Vancouver, USA  
Puget Sound Trucklines  
Rexius  
RJB Wholesale  
Sunlight Supply  
Tetra Pak Materials, Inc.  
Vancouver CFS, Inc.  
Vancouver Warehouse & Dist.  
Wellons, Inc.  
Wilhelm Trucking & Rigging Co.

**High Capacity Transit**

The West Vancouver Freight Alliance supports High Capacity Transit. We understand that transit is a requirement of constructing a new crossing. We are in favor of the transit option that least impacts travel times and accessibility to and from West Vancouver and I-5.

We believe transit will increase congestion and reduce capacity on Mill Plain, making our ability to utilize other options, such as Fourth Plain, more necessary.

**Transit Alignment**

We support an alignment that does not extend to Fourth Plain. If transit extends to Clark College, we will need interchange improvements to Fourth Plain Boulevard and I-5 to accommodate additional traffic caused by a transit park and ride.

**Interchanges**

Mill Plain Boulevard and Fourth Plain Boulevard provide priority freight corridor access to I-5. It is essential that these interchanges allow for the efficient movement of single and double-haul trucks and oversized loads. The interchanges must provide enough future capacity to support increasing local deliveries from a wide variety of vehicles, and allow for the reliable passage of our employees.