



**From:** [Tina Katica](#)  
**To:** [Columbia River Crossing;](#)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Columbia River crossing: "yes" to the bridge and to light rail  
**Date:** Monday, June 02, 2008 8:31:03 PM  
**Attachments:**

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TO: The Columbia River Crossing task force

I am writing as a fifth generation Washingtonian, a 35-year Vancouver resident, and a veteran of 24 years of commuting from Vancouver to Portland for both work and pleasure.

I have used Portland light rail, and have long hoped it will one day extend north across the Columbia River. I voted in favor of light rail ten years ago, and am still a strong proponent. I believe Clark County residents will eventually embrace light rail as a transit alternative to automobile travel as it becomes more available and convenient. Further, light rail will help provide some reduction of carbon emissions as well as congestion relief. I favor a new bridge with six through-lanes, and additional lanes for light rail, pedestrian, and bicycles.

I am in favor of a toll, but feel it should be shared between the I-405 and I-5 corridors, and should be imposed for peak-hour travel. A toll on I-5 alone will re-route large volumes of traffic to I-205, and will adversely affect the east/west corridor of I-84 as well as the north/south I-205 route. I also feel that tolls should be waived or reduced for alternative-fuel vehicles. This is a practice in some southern-California counties, and has helped create an additional incentive for people to choose lower-emission alternatives.

I believe Washington State and Clark County should work together to create additional incentives for business to locate in Clark County, increasing employment opportunities north of the Columbia, thus reducing the need for county residents to drive to

jobs across the river.

All of this will require long-term planning and cooperation, courage from our community, regional, and national leaders, and willingness from all of us to become part of the solution.

Regards,

Christine Katica  
3610 Clark Avenue  
Vancouver, WA 98661