



From: [Lorena](#)
To: [Draft EIS Feedback;](#)
CC:
Subject: i-5 Interstate Bridge
Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2008 9:05:32 AM
Attachments:

In regards to the bridge plan, I have some thoughts I wanted to share.

The Interstate Bridge was built in the early 1900's, with revisions to expand the bridge in the 1960's. Since that time, our population has increased an exponential amount and we have not kept up with the population. The bridge has not been widened nor has the route at the Delta Park area been revised to handle the larger amounts of traffic.

To state that our area is "sprawling" is rejecting the commerce of the area. We have numerous large companies that have employees who live in many areas - Nike, Intel, PSU, and others in the outlying cities. Transportation is important for them to work. One may state that working at home is a feasible thing to do, and while many do work at home, there is physical contact needed in the work world to further technologies and the economy. Without these powerhouses, we would not have the thriving communities that we have now. Do a study and take away these makers of money and see what is left. Can the area float without them? Maybe - but barely.

Don't punish people for working by making them harbor ill wills with the wishes of the few who do not want "sprawl". Jettison the idea that we will be able to live on top of each other. It is not a healthy environment to do so - not physically (think asthma, allergies and other environmental illnesses that are exploding right now), mentally (how much anger and depression that is

setting in), or physiologically (can we really have 600 more townhouses on a 100ft squared lot??). If people wish to live in a small community – then go live in a small community! We live in a metropolis of neighborhoods, cities and towns, and need each other to work together on this.

I have lived in the Beaverton area for 20 years now, and have witnessed it grow over 1000%. I am witnessing Los Angeles in blooming mode here in the Portland area. I have driven down there in Portland quite a number of times to understand that there will always be needs for the expansion of transportation and that a multi-use transportation plan is one that benefits all. We can have the Max Light Rail, the bus system, bicycles and even people driving their own cars. Our time is valuable to us to be productive. We don't want to sit in traffic behind the semis driving triple trailers – whether we are on a bus or in our own car. Time spent in traffic is less money coming into the community and more emissions going out into the air.

Please think of all the impact that a new bridge would benefit, not just “sprawl”. There is more to this idea than just widening the path between Vancouver and Portland. It's widening our eyes to what is happening in our world.

*~Lorena Brown
Beaverton, OR
Breathe in...Breathe out...*