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Columbia River Crossing

Columbia River Crossing C/o Heather Gundersen, Environmental Manager 700 Washington Street, Suite 300 Vancouver, WA 98660



Sub: Marine Drive Interchange/ Portland Expo Center

Ref: Ch.2, Page 26

Dear Ms. Gundersen, CRC Project Staff and CRC Task Force Manager

My name is Randall Rosenau and I represent Trade Shows West, we do Consumer Trade Shows in the Ski and Snowboard Industry. We have been doing shows at the Expo Center for at least 15 years now, as has more than 100 other event coordinators. I would like to comment about your proposal and impact of both the Diagonal and Southern Alignment options for the Marine Drive interchange.

As I stated above we have been holding our event for over 15 years now and we have at least 150 exhibitors at our show, both retail and manufactures, representing every aspect of the Ski and Snowboard industry, from clothes to ski's and everything in between. Each year our show has an attendance of over 22,000. While my staff is relatively small about 120, they are all more than full time employees, meaning they work from sun up to sundown. We work with DWA, Don Worth & Associates as our decorator and they have a staff of 50 to set up and tear down our event.

Our exhibitors come from eleven Western States and four Canadian Provinces so we provide a huge financial impact on the surrounding area. Our Host Hotel is the Marriot Courtyard Portland North Harbour. Over the course of 3 days we book over 450 room nights and we have them cater all of our functions, from morning coffee breaks for our TV personalities, to a Party for our Exhibitor on Saturday night. The total amount that this brings to the Hotel is in excess of \$100,000.00. This does not take into account all the breakfasts, lunches, and dinners that each of our exhibitors spend in the local area. I have no idea how much money is spent on liquor or the lottery but I can assure you that the State of Oregon sees a huge amount of capital coming into their coffers during this time.

As far as our community involvement, we offer free space for the Mount Hood Ski Patrol, Disabled Sports USA, MS Society, Special Olympics just to name a few. These booths are informational and donation locations for each of these organizations. It also allows these organizations to get their name out as well as their Mission Statement.

I cannot state how strongly I oppose both the Diagonal and Southern Realignment proposals. The diagonal proposal will remove two Exhibition Halls and a considerable amount of parking spaces, this is a MAX stop but the parking lot is always completely full to capacity. Just the revenue from the parking tickets alone, because there is no room to park, would hit the Portland Police revenue dramatly. As for the Southern Realignment this again would incur a loss of parking, and restrict the loading and

unloading of products of our exhibitors. I can only support the Standard or current interchange option that minimizes these issues.

In closing I request you to only consider or support the **Standard Interchange** option. This option would preserve the integrity of the existing structures of the Expo Center as well as the livelihood of my business and all the business at my Show. The decision not to use the Standard Interchange will also affect all the businesses in the local vicinity. Please consider all of the above when voting for the proposed options within the DEIS.

Sincerely,

Randall Rosenau Marketing Director

**Trade Shows West** 

4634 NE 40<sup>th</sup>

Portland, OR 97211

Cc: Chris Bailey, Director- Portland Expo Center