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Columbia River Crossing

June 19, 2008

Subj: Marine Drive Interchange/ Portland Expo Center Ref: DEIS - Ch. 2, Pg. 26

Dear Ms. Gundersen, CRC project staff and CRC Task Force Members:

My name is Shellie O'Donnell and I represent the Northwest Quilting Expo. Our event is held annually at the Portland Expo Center and we will be directly impacted by the proposed Diagonal and Southern Alignment options for the Marine Drive Interchange.

Our show is in it's 8th year. Our attendance is 5000 and growing each year. We house 80 vendors, many of whom are from the Portland area. Out of town guests stay at the various motels around the expo center and eat at the local restaurants. We hire a local pipe and drape company as well as the caterer at the Expo Center to help get our show going. Packaging of all kinds are purchased for the show. Notions and fabrics from EE Schenck located on Swan Island are delivered daily to the show. Each year we also pick a local charity project. This year all proceeds from a benefit breakfast will help support the Clackamas County Women's Shelter. In short our show supports many businesses in the Portland area.

As our show grows we would like the opportunity to expand into other buildings and have adequate parking for our customers. Our vendors are our bread and butter and as the facility stands it is perfect for all of their needs. There is plenty of parking, loading and unloading room for them. It is quite hectic on move in and move out day so any less space would be a detriment to our show.

We at the Northwest Quilting Expo are extremely happy with the configuration of the Expo Center and surrounding interchanges. I have had nothing but positive feedback from both vendors and attendees regarding the facility and the ease of it's use in all areas. Changing the configuration would greatly hamper our show. Please take into consideration the economic impact on not only our show but all aspects connected to supporting it. We bring a good amount of business to the area and are happy to support our home town.

**Laura Wallace-Dickson** actbernina@aol.com

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Sincerely,

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