



Catlin Gabel

June 20, 2008

RECEIVED

JUN 23 2008

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

Columbia River Crossing

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



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

The annual Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale is held annually the first weekend in November and is one of the largest rummage sales in the world. The school relies heavily on the events proceeds which support financial aid at Catlin Gabel. The impact of the proposed Diagonal and Southern Alignment options for the Marine Drive Interchange would have a profound impact on our annual event.

Catlin Gabel has been using the Expo Center now for past 15 years for our annual rummage sale. The Sale fills 88,000 square feet at the Portland Expo Center. The six decades long tradition is the School's largest volunteer activity, engaging over one thousand volunteers during the sale week and in year round sorting and organizing. Not to mention the rental fees we pay to Brammer Event Rentals for tables, drapes, chairs and clothing hangers. The Sale raises well over \$300,000 with the proceeds benefiting student financial aid while giving an average of 14,000 shoppers a year access to the basic necessities of clothing, furniture, bedding and books for discount prices. Many of the people who shop each year spend their annual clothing budget with us – and are able to get good quality merchandise they would not otherwise be able to afford.

Catlin Gabel strongly opposes the Marine Drive Interchange plan in its alternate forms. The loss of Hall A and Hall B would have a profound impact on our rummage sale since it is one of two main halls we rent on an annual basis for our community. The unknown loss of parking along with the loss of access to the Force Lot and Shuttle Bus route would create a strain on the volunteers as well as the patrons to our sale. The VIP meeting room and related support space are key areas we use for volunteer check in stations, break rooms and meal times. The current plan has limited impact on Hall A, B and the loss of parking – which from what we can see in the plans are negligible in contrast to the proposed Diagonal and Southern Alignment options.

Catlin Gabel strongly opposes the proposed Marine Drive Interchange proposals. The current/standard plan that has little to no impact on Halls A, B and the existing parking would ensure our community would continue to have the success at the Expo Center. By changing the Marine Drive Interchange and essentially eliminating Halls A, B, unknown amounts of parking along with many other areas in the Expo Center would have a huge impact on our community, our Rummage Sale and the 14,000 individuals who shop at our annual sale. We ask the committee to please consider these negative impacts when voting for the proposed options within the DEIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley Sepetoski".

Lesley Sepetoski
Rummage Coordinator

Cc: Chris Bailey, Director - Portland Expo Center