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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DRAFT EIS
PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

RED LION HOTEL
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON



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1 The light rail must use signal
2 priority for its operation. The
3 surrounding lived with and grappled with
4 freight running through them for decades.
5 Bisecting the already busy freight
6 corridors with light rail that has signal
7 priority will place more time delayed
8 freight that is idling and creating
9 increased pollution in our surrounding
10 neighborhoods.

11 This increase in delays will generate
12 more traffic on a lesser used arterials of
13 Mill Plain, Fourth Plain and 39th Street.
14 Lesser corridors will conversely be
15 dealing with cut-through traffic due to
16 the removable lane on Main Street for
17 automobiles.

18 Thank you.

19 HAL DENERINK: Thank you.

20 Debra.

21 DEBRA ELLIOTT: Hello. My name is
22 Debra Elliott. I live at 400 Northwest
23 Columbia Street in the West Vancouver
24 neighborhood. I am from the Lincoln
25 neighborhood.

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1 When the option of light rail coming
2 in to my neighborhood was first proposed
3 by the CRC about a year ago, I didn't
4 believe anyone would seriously support
5 running rail tracks through an established
6 residential neighborhood. My opposition
7 then was mostly personal. The livability
8 of my neighborhood at risk for lost homes,
9 lost businesses, endangering school
10 children by the light rail's proximity to
11 two public schools as well as from
12 building a gigantic 1400 car parking
13 structure between both schools and
14 increased nonlocal traffic -- not
15 forgetting the major change of the
16 character of this historic area of
17 Vancouver, and the inevitably rise in
18 crime is statistically proven.

19 Tonight, my opposition to light rail
20 has become much broader than just not in
21 my backyard. Contrary to the Mayor's
22 statements, this issue has been studied to
23 death. I think it's being sugarcoated
24 with vague answers about the actual
25 funding, the maintenance and operation,

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1 selling its appeal to the majority of the
2 population who would use it and no
3 convincing proof that light rail is the
4 best and only viable solution for
5 interstate traffic flowing faster across
6 the I-5 corridor, for less congestion and
7 for greater highway safety.

8 The mayor said it's wasting
9 taxpayers' money to answer any more
10 questions. I'm a tax payer. The cost of
11 a thorough and honest assessment of this
12 issue is certainly a drop in the bucket
13 compare to the billions of dollars I hear
14 the project will ultimately cost.

15 Thank you.

16 HAL DENGERINK: Thank you, Debra.
17 I don't know how to pronounce your name.

18 DVIJA MICHAEL BERTISH: You did fine
19 earlier. Dvija Michael Bertish. I am at
20 1514 East 29th Street in Vancouver. And I
21 am -- personally I oppose the elements of
22 the project that incorporate light rail or
23 displacements of land acquisitions. I am
24 also offering technical comments on behalf
25 of Rosemary Neighborhood Association and

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
County of Clark)

I, Cathy S. Taylor, a notary public for the State of Washington do hereby certify that I transcribed to the best of my ability said proceedings written by me in machine shorthand and thereafter reduced to typewriting; and that the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of said proceedings and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and notarial seal
this 16th day of June, 2008.

Cathy S. Taylor, RPR, CSR
Notary Public for the State of Washington
My Commission expires April 15, 2009