

**From:** [Peter Nierengarten](#)   
**To:** [Columbia River Crossing;](#)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Columbia River Crossing Comments  
**Date:** Friday, June 27, 2008 9:15:38 AM  
**Attachments:**

---

As a Portland resident and an avid cyclist who has occasionally used the existing I-5 bridge in both the auto lanes and on the bicycle path, I recognize the need for upgraded facilities over the Columbia River. I worry that if new bridges include an increase in the number of auto lanes this will promote urban sprawl in SW Washington, encourage significant increases in the number of Washington autos on Portland surface streets and ultimately degrade the quality of life and the environment in the Portland Metro Area.

A new bridge should certainly include significantly improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities, light rail connections with stops for Haden Island and downtown Vancouver and travel lane(s) dedicated for local and express busses. Additionally this bridge must NOT encourage increases in single passenger auto traffic across the Columbia River. This should be accomplished by charging steep tolls for autos crossing the bridge, improving the transit service connections on both sides of the river and on Haden Island, and by limiting the number of total lanes on each bridge to four (at least one of which should be dedicated to busses). A bridge constructed with more than four total lanes would be a significant disservice to and detract from the quality of life for the people of the Portland Metro Area.

Thank you for considering my comments

Peter Nierengarten  
3840 SE Alder St.  
Portland, OR 97214

---

The other season of giving begins 6/24/08. Check out the i'm Talkathon. [Check it out!](#)