

From: <u>John Masterman</u>

**To:** Draft EIS Feedback;

CC:

Subject: I-5

**Date:** Thursday, June 26, 2008 10:27:58 AM

**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Here are my two cents worth.

Freedom is my first interest. I'm aware that travel throughout the city is not convenient during peak hours. I make adjustments, when possible, to avoid driving during peak times on the busiest roads. I detest sitting in traffic. I'll take whatever route is available, even if it takes longer, to avoid traffic. Once a week, I need to get to the Delta Park area. I take surface streets. It's freer-flowing, and is faster than I-5. If the freeway is clear, I'll take it. If not, I add to neighborhood traffic.

I'm kind of rambling here J

The very idea of a toll to drive across the river on the freeway infuriates me! This is America! Once you pay for the gas and the taxes on it, I want to be able to use whatever public road is there. Period. No tolls.

I will never use mass transit. The more people that do, the better it is for me. I'm driving.

I hear about concerns about building a large bridge over the river and how it will only encourage more sprawl and congestion. This is true. It has always been true. It will not change. How about if we TRY to make an improvement for vehicle traffic for once? I'm tired of seeing how much money is spend on light rail instead of roads, when it only helps a few percent of the people moving around. It wastes money and takes away lanes of traffic. If a bigger bridge is built, it will help traffic flow for thousands of people for many years. Eventually the congestion will move to another place. With some advanced planning, this problem can be eased. Politics have made it too late for advanced planning. It's WAY past time for some improvements. Does anyone else remember the Mt. Hood freeway that Neil Goldschmidt killed off in the 70's? We got light rail instead. Again, light rail is useful for what percentage of the people? Not enough to justify the expense.

I'm not interested in being a quiet, tax-paying citizen that has no freedom to move around if the government-planned transportation options aren't available. I'm going to get in my car and go where I want, when I want. I pay for my fuel, and the taxes that go with it. I pay my registration fees. I pay for my insurance. I pay for my vehicle and the maintenance. Don't make me pay for the others that don't.

## John Masterman

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