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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DRAFT EIS
PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

RED LION HOTEL
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON



00094

1 of the other people who are going to go
2 ahead and complain about the houses being
3 moved.

4 But you know what? We need to do it.
5 It's the best thing to do for the economy.
6 It's the best thing to do for the region.

7 Thank you very much.

8 HAL Dengerink: Okay. My
9 information that what we have left are two
10 remaining folks. Can I make certain of
11 that? Ginger.

12 GINGER Metcalf: Thank you.
13 Freight mobility, delivery of services,
14 navigation, safety and jobs -- smart
15 planning calls for building a replacement
16 bridge now. It would be irresponsible of
17 us as citizens not to consider the
18 immediate future and the future of those
19 who follow us.

20 HAL Dengerink: Thank you.
21 Debbie.

22 DEBBIE Peterson: Thank you. My
23 name is Debbie Peterson. My address is
24 P.O. Box 82, Vancouver. I'm a 30-year
25 resident of this area and I am not either

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1 a yea-sayer nor am I a naysayer. I look
2 at the data. And I think the data is
3 overwhelmingly sobering in terms of light
4 rail and its deficiencies and its promises
5 versus the actual outcome.

6 I would like to go ahead and explain
7 that if I may. First of all, I would like
8 to say that light rail will have
9 negligible impact on traffic congestion
10 based -- because of the traffic, few
11 automobile drivers from their cars -- the
12 demographics of Clark County trends will
13 make light rail much less effective than
14 predicted by the CRC.

15 Light rail is expensive. The most
16 cost effective federally funded systems
17 have required subsidies of 5000 dollars
18 and more per new rider. New riders are
19 those riders that get out of their cars
20 and into transit systems, not those who
21 were originally taking bus transit and now
22 going to light rail transit.

23 Light rail cost and ridership
24 forecasts are erroneous and they are based
25 in favor of light rail. We experienced

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1 that at the last neighborhood association
2 meetings that were held at the Rider
3 Resource Center by disinterested third
4 parties from Seattle.

5 Light rail will not spur development.
6 Development along light rail corridors is
7 spurred by tax subsidies, not light rail.

8 Portland itself is a poster child for
9 light rail. And as we know, light rail
10 has not produced urban development.
11 Actually what has produced urban
12 development along light rail are tax
13 subsidies via ten years. Light rail will
14 not improve commuter travel time, energy
15 conservation and safety.

16 My recommendations are to the CRC. I
17 would like to see the CRC Directors
18 continue to be made aware of the national
19 experience in light rail over the past
20 20 years and light rail's documented
21 inability to solve urban transit problems
22 such as traffic congestion and pollution.
23 These are via -- I'm sorry. These are
24 verifiable data that you can look up
25 yourselves.

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1 Along those lines, we further suggest
2 that disinterested experts from academia
3 be invited to provide a historical
4 perspective to the directors. Input
5 should come from a variety of sources,
6 especially experts in economics, transit
7 and light rail who do not have a vested
8 interest in the promotion of light rail
9 for our county.

10 Second recommendation, I would like
11 to see that they have a build/no build
12 criteria. I would like to see parameters
13 that are instituted that say, "If we do
14 not meet this, we will have a no build
15 decision."

16 I think that Clark County residents
17 of this area deserve that. They have put
18 up three years of incompetence. And based
19 on that gentleman whose first name is Joe
20 showed the inconsistencies that were made.

21 And you do deserve being publicly --
22 I believe -- humiliated because of the
23 lack -- with the money that you've had,
24 the lack of discretion and the lack of
25 information you have given the people of

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1 Clark County.
2 HAL DINGERINK: Apparently there
3 are three additional folks who have signed
4 up. I don't know, I am having more
5 trouble as the not goes on reading. A.L.
6 Kansanback. Everett? Is there an Everett
7 here? Jonathan Schlueter.
8 SPEAKER: I thought I had
9 signed up to speak. You haven't called my
10 name.
11 HAL DINGERINK: I called everybody
12 who signed up. All right.
13 SPEAKER: If I can get up
14 and say something --
15 HAL DINGERINK: Okay. And I've
16 got one more. Okay.
17 A.L. KANSANBACK: Good evening.
18 Thank you gentlemen for coming. I am here
19 tonight because I got a little panicked.
20 When somebody pushes me to spend four
21 billion dollars as a taxpayer and I've got
22 to do it by tomorrow, I get real nervous.
23 I don't think that anybody has looked at
24 this thing with all eyes open.
25 We are talking, what, 50 percent or

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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