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Columbia River Crossing

*my opinion*

P-0059-001

By the time the bridge would be finished, the price of gasoline will be so high, and gasoline may be rationed, people will use the bridge to walk and to bicycle.

P-0059-002

For now a toll should be placed on the present bridge high enough to discourage people who work in Portland and move to Washington to escape our (Portland's) property tax and then shop to Portland to escape Washington sales tax.

P-0059-003

I think we are 20 years too late for the new bridge.

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Significant increases in oil prices can have both short term and long term effects on travel behavior. In the short term, the options for responding to rising gas prices are more limited, and include driving less and/or changing from driving to walking, biking or transit for at least some trips. During recent increases in gasoline prices transit use increased and off-peak highway travel decreased. Peak period highway travel changed little.

Over the long term, there are more options for adjusting to changes in gasoline prices, besides changing driving behavior. Technological advances and legislative mandates can increase fuel efficiency standards in the long term. In turn, as older vehicles wear out, more consumers can replace them with more fuel efficient vehicles. Automobile manufacturers are developing and will continue to develop new vehicle and engine technologies that require much less, or even no, petroleum-based fuels. This trend is already happening as evidenced by the growing popularity of gasoline-electric hybrid and small electric vehicles.

**P-0059-002**

Modeling has indicated that tolling I-5 without making the improvements that are part of the CRC project would not meet the project's Purpose and Need. This does not mean that some form of tolling prior to constructing CRC couldn't be implemented. The ultimate decision on any tolling options will be made by both the Washington and Oregon Transportation Commissions.

**P-0059-003**

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments on the I-5 CRC DEIS.