P-0212-001

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From: george middleton

To: Draft EIS Feedback;

CC:

Subject: new I-5 bridge

Date: Thursday, June 26, 2008 3:27:53 PM

Attachments:

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Not building the bridge would be a colossal failure that would resonate beyond the foreseeable future. Without it we will be the bottleneck that inhibits both commuting and commerce along all of I-5.

We must follow through now. The consequences of no action are too detrimental to the NW economy in the long run.

George Middleton



Preferences for specific alternatives or options, as expressed in comments received before and after the issuance of the DEIS, were shared with local sponsor agencies to inform decision making. Following the close of the 60-day DEIS public comment period in July 2008, the CRC project's six local sponsor agencies selected a replacement I-5 bridge with light rail to Clark College as the project's Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). These sponsor agencies, which include the Portland City Council, Vancouver City Council, TriMet Board, C-TRAN Board, Metro Council, RTC Board, considered the DEIS analysis, public comment, and a recommendation from the CRC Task Force when voting on the LPA.

With the LPA, new bridges will replace the existing Interstate Bridges to carry I-5 traffic, light rail, pedestrians and bicyclists across the Columbia River. Light rail will extend from the Expo Center MAX Station in Portland to a station and park and ride at Clark College in Vancouver. Pedestrians and bicyclists would travel along a wider and safer path than exists today.

For a more detailed description of highway, transit, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements associated with the LPA, see Chapter 2 of the FEIS.