From: Nelson Brady

To: Draft EIS Feedback;

CC:

Subject: One comment about the new bridge proposal

Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2008 10:21:43 AM

Attachments:

B-020-001 One idea has been the bridge should rise (arch upward) for more aesthetic appeal. While I am all for affordable aesthetics, what has not been considered that I have heard is the traffic impact of the rise.

For every degree of elevation on the bridge you slow traffic more, have more stalls, and have more accidents. This is especially true in hot weather and for badly maintained vehicles and heavily loaded trucks.

The rise slows people as they do not like not being able to see over the horizon. A very real psychological effect. A rise causes stalls when problem vehicles can not make it up the incline, and can drastically slow heavy trucks. When this happens you get more lane changes on the bridge which leads to more accidents. This is not my opinion. It is something I have observed repeatedly in 10 years of daily bridge use.

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B-020-001

Thank you for taking the time to comment on the project. We have been working through numerous engineering issues from the multiple perspectives of structural engineering, visual impacts, and traffic operations. Because we need to keep the project low enough to minimize impacts to aviation, there will be only minimal vertical curvature in the bridge deck. The bridge will be higher than it is now, but the approaches will start further back, allowing for a lower grade than currently exists. This should help to reduce the stalling and safety issues you spoke of.

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