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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DRAFT EIS  
PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

RED LION HOTEL  
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON



00051

1 not to spend three nickels for spending  
2 one dime.  
3 Thank you for your comments.  
4 HAL DENGERRINK: Thank you. John  
5 Mohlis.  
6 JOHN MOHLIS: Thank you. Good  
7 evening. My name is John Mohlis. I'm the  
8 Executive Secretary Treasurer for the  
9 Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council,  
10 which is an umbrella organization for  
11 approximately 20,000 union building  
12 workers in Southwest Washington and  
13 Northwest Oregon. My address is 3535  
14 Southeast 86th Avenue in Portland.  
15 Our Council is on record in support  
16 of a replacement bridge with light rail.  
17 We believe that that is the right project  
18 for our region, for our economy and for  
19 the environment.  
20 In my job with the building trades, I  
21 am contacted from time to time by existing  
22 businesses that are considering expansion  
23 or by businesses from outside of our area  
24 that are considering relocating here, and  
25 one of their main concerns always is how

O-018-001

## O-018-001

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.

O-018-001

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1 am I going to get my goods and products to  
2 market and how are my employees going to  
3 get to work and back home in a timely  
4 fashion to their families.  
5 Some folks have spoke tonight about  
6 possibly retrofitting the existing  
7 bridges, seismic upgrades. I don't care  
8 how much lipstick you put on those two  
9 bridges, you are still stuck with two draw  
10 bridges on the I-5 corridor.  
11 It's the main artery on the west  
12 coast from Canada to Mexico. And to have  
13 draw bridges in this day and age on that  
14 artery is ludicrous to have people backed  
15 up for hours at a time when those bridge  
16 lifts are going on.  
17 So we hope that the replacement  
18 bridge with light rail is the project that  
19 is chosen and moves forward so that our  
20 region and our citizens can continue to  
21 prosper.  
22 Thank you very much.  
23 HAL DINGERINK: Thank you, John.  
24 Now John Felton.  
25 JOHN FELTON: Good evening, my

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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