

Columbia River
 **CROSSING** Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Comment Form

The Columbia River Crossing project welcomes your comments on the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement or any other aspect of the project or process. Please fill out this form and use additional sheets of paper if necessary. Give this form to project staff or return to the project office.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

What is your home zip code? 98685 Work zip code? _____

Do you: (check all that apply)

- Live in the project area?
 Work in the project area?
 Own a business in the project area?

- Commute through the project area?
 Other _____

How do you regularly travel in the project area:
 (check all that apply)

- Bicycle?
 Car or Truck?
 Other _____
- Bus?
 Walk?

Comments:

P-0610-001 *We are already strapped financially & this would be a terrific set back to us. I will need to look for an added job just to pay for gas and toll*

1. WHICH BRIDGE OPTION DO YOU SUPPORT? (please check any that you would support)

- P-0610-002** Replace the existing bridges
 Supplement the existing bridges with a new structure
 Do nothing—make no changes to the existing bridges *But add lanes in the Delta Park area*
 No opinion

- over -

P-0610-001

Tolling was evaluated in the DEIS and FEIS, and included in the LPA for two important reasons. First, a toll may be necessary to pay for the construction of this project, as discussed in Chapter 4 of the FEIS. Second, a toll provides a valuable travel demand management tool that encourages travelers to take alternative modes (including light rail provided by this project), travel at off-peak periods, or reduce their auto trips. This demand management reduces congestion and extends the effective service life of the facility. When the existing I-5 northbound bridge was built in 1917, it was paid for with a toll. The southbound I-5 bridge, built in 1958, was also funded partially by tolls. In 2008, the Washington legislature passed enabling language for tolling on I-5, provided that each facility is later authorized under specific legislation. Once authorized by the legislature, the Washington Transportation Commission has the authority to set the toll rates. In Oregon, and the Oregon Transportation Commission has the authority to toll a facility and to set the toll rates.

P-0610-002

The evaluation of the five alternatives in the DEIS was preceded by an evaluation and screening of a wide array of possible solutions to the CRC project's Purpose and Need statement. Chapter 2 of the DEIS (Section 2.5) explains how the project's Sponsoring Agencies generated ideas and solicited the public, stakeholders, other agencies, and tribes for ideas on how to meet the Purpose and Need. This effort produced a long list of potential solutions, many of which were non-auto oriented options such as various transit modes and techniques for operating the existing highway system more efficiently without any capital investment. After identifying this wide array of options, the project evaluated whether and how they met the project's Purpose and Need, and found that in order for an alternative to meet the six "needs" included in the Purpose and Need (described in Chapter 1 of the DEIS), it had to provide at least some measure of capital improvements to I-5 in the project area.

2. WHAT HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT MODE DO YOU SUPPORT? (please check any that you would support)

- P-0610-003** Bus rapid transit between Vancouver and Portland
- Light rail between Vancouver and Portland
- Do not add high capacity transit between Vancouver and Portland
- No opinion

3. WOULD YOU SUPPORT BRINGING BUS RAPID TRANSIT OR LIGHT RAIL TO THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS? (please check any that you would support)

	Yes	No	Unsure	No Opinion
Lincoln Terminus (39th and Main)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Giggins Bowl Terminus (I-5 and 45th)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clark College MOS Terminus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mill Plain MOS Terminus (15th and Main)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DO YOU WANT TO STAY INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT? | Optional

YES NO Would you like to be added to the project mailing list?

Name (First & Last Name, Organization)

Address (Street, City, State, Zip)

E-mail (enter address to receive monthly electronic updates)

Thank you!

Give this form to project staff or return to the project office:

Postal Mail

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Fax

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E-mail

DraftEISfeedback@columbiarivercrossing.org

Submit Online Comments

www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org

Draft EIS information

www.columbiarivercrossing.org/Current/Topics/
DraftEIS.aspx

Comments must be postmarked by July 1, 2008



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Alternatives that did not include such improvements in the highway generally did not adequately address the seismic vulnerability of the existing I-5 bridges, traffic congestion on I-5, or the existing safety problems caused by sub-standard design of the highway in this corridor. The DEIS evaluated alternatives with more demand management (higher toll) and increased transit service with less investment in highway infrastructure improvements (Alternatives 4 and 5). This analysis found that a more balanced investment in highway and transit, as represented by Alternatives 2 and 3, performed best.

Regarding I-5 south of the bridge, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) completed Phase I construction of the I-5 Delta Park widening project in fall 2010. Phase I of the project involved widening I-5 and lengthening the entrance and exit ramps at Victory Boulevard and Columbia Boulevard. Phase II involves improving local streets and will begin when funding is secured. Phase I of the Delta Park project widened the current 2-lane segment of southbound I-5 to 3 lanes. Though necessary, the I-5 Delta Park widening project does not on its own address the six project "needs" discussed above.

P-0610-003

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.