

# 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? 98684 Work zip code? 97217

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-0612-001 I believe that the option of keeping the existing bridges to use as in-town travel (Downtown - Santzen Beach) has been overlooked or at least has not been fully evaluated. Those two bridges are being looked at as "Seismically unfit" at a time when little to no attention is being paid to all of the other structures in our area that "could" be classified as the same. It is unfortunate that all of the attention is focused on the I-5 bridges. Of the 5 options that are on the table, none of them make sense to me. The Supplemental plans will be easily laid to rest when people realize that if the old bridges are retained for northbound or southbound, one side will end up getting the short end of the stick everytime there is a bridge lift.
- P-0612-002
- P-0612-003
- P-0612-004
- P-0612-005 I think it is time to pull back on the reins and re-evaluate where we really stand. And not to make decisions that we will regret.

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

- P-0612-006  Replace the existing bridges  
 Supplement the existing bridges with a new structure  
 Do nothing—make no changes to the existing bridges  
 No opinion

- over -

### P-0612-001

Many different options for addressing the project's Purpose and Need were evaluated in a screening process prior to the development and evaluation of the alternatives in the DEIS. Options eliminated through the screening process included a new corridor crossing over the Columbia River (in addition to I-5 and I-205), an arterial crossing between Hayden Island and downtown Vancouver, a tunnel under the Columbia River, and various modes of transit other than light rail and bus rapid transit. Section 2.5 of the DEIS explains why a third corridor, arterial crossing of the Columbia River, and several transit modes evaluated in screening were dropped from further consideration because they did not meet the Purpose and Need. For a general description of the screening process see Chapter 2 (Section 2.7) of the FEIS. It should be noted that every proposal received from the public was considered, and many of the proposals that were dropped from further consideration included elements that helped shape the alternatives in the DEIS.

### P-0612-002

The I-5 bridges, like many older bridges in the region and nation, are not seismically sound and were never designed to survive a significant earthquake. In 1995, ODOT commissioned a study to look specifically at the lift spans of the I-5 bridges, which are considered the most vulnerable sections of the bridges. Vulnerabilities were found in the bearings, piles, piers, and lift span tower truss members. Both the northbound and southbound bridges have been identified as functionally obsolete bridges. This classification means they no longer meet the geometric and/or load capacity criteria of the Interstate system. The fact that there are other bridges in the region that are seismically unsound does not diminish the importance of protecting the I-5 crossing from failure in the event of a significant earthquake.

### P-0612-003

Many different options for addressing the project's Purpose and Need

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

- P-0612-006**  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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Giggins Bowl Terminus (I-5 and 45th)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clark College MOS Terminus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mill Plain MOS Terminus (15th and Main)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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? *no*

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**

Columbia River Crossing Project  
C/O Heather Gundersen, Environmental Manager  
700 Washington Street, Suite 300  
Vancouver, WA 98660

**Fax**

360-737-0294

**E-mail**

DraftEISfeedback@columbiarivercrossing.org

**Submit Online Comments**

www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org

**Draft EIS information**

www.columbiarivercrossing.org/CurrentTopics/  
DraftEIS.aspx

Comments must be postmarked by July 1, 2008



Handled 050608

were evaluated in a screening process prior to the development and evaluation of the alternatives in the DEIS. Options eliminated through the screening process included a new corridor crossing over the Columbia River (in addition to I-5 and I-205), an arterial crossing between Hayden Island and downtown Vancouver, a tunnel under the Columbia River, and various modes of transit other than light rail and bus rapid transit. Section 2.5 of the DEIS explains why a third corridor, arterial crossing of the Columbia River, and several transit modes evaluated in screening were dropped from further consideration because they did not meet the Purpose and Need. For a general description of the screening process see Chapter 2 (Section 2.7) of the FEIS. It should be noted that every proposal received from the public was considered, and many of the proposals that were dropped from further consideration included elements that helped shape the alternatives in the DEIS.

**P-0612-004**

The CRC Task Force - composed of 39 leaders from a broad cross section of Washington and Oregon communities – was tasked with advising the CRC project team, including federal sponsors, and providing guidance and recommendations at key decision points over the course of nearly 3 ½ years. Public agencies, businesses, civic organizations, neighborhoods and freight, commuter and environmental groups were all represented on the Task Force. The Task Force voted to develop a supplemental bridge alternative, in an attempt to find an alternative to total bridge replacement that would still meet the project's purpose and need but at lower cost and with greater reliance on managing demand with higher tolls and more transit service. The two most promising supplemental alternatives were considered in the DEIS. Based on the detailed analysis that followed, the Task Force recommended, and all project sponsors agreed, that the replacement bridge with light rail was the locally preferred alternative.

**P-0612-005**

Significant work has gone into developing the CRC project, including an ongoing public involvement effort. The public involvement program includes numerous advisory groups to ensure the values and interests of the community are reflected in project decisions. These groups include representatives of public agencies, businesses, civic organizations, neighborhoods and freight, commuter and environmental groups. Feedback from the general public and advisory groups has been generally supportive of the project, including support for the transit, bicycle, pedestrian, highway, interchange, and financing elements of the project. See Chapter 2 (Section 2.7) of the FEIS for more discussion on the process used to develop project alternatives and select a Locally Preferred Alternative.

**P-0612-006**

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.