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P-0645-001

From: zelen@verizon.net

To: Columbia River Crossing;

CC:

Subject: Comment from CRC DraftEIS Comments Page

Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2008 9:01:20 AM

Attachments:

Home Zip Code: 97225 Work Zip Code: 97225

Person:

Other - Live in Portland

Person commutes in the travel area via:

Car or Truck

P-0645-001 1. In Support of the following bridge options: Supplemental Bridge

- 2. In Support of the following High Capacity Transit options: Bus Rapid Transit between Vancouver and Portland Light Rail between Vancouver and Portland
- 3. Support of Bus Rapid Transit or Light Rail by location:

Lincoln Terminus: Yes Kiggins Bowl Terminus: Yes Mill Plain (MOS) Terminus: Yes Clark College (MOS) Terminus: Yes

Contact Information: First Name: Jennifer Last Name: Zelen

Title:

E-Mail: zelen@verizon.net

Address:

P-0645-002 Good job to Metro Councillors for suggesting a toll for the current I-5 bridge, and 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.

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Modeling has indicated that tolling I-5 without making the improvements that are part of the CRC project would not meet the project's Purpose and Need. This does not mean that some form of tolling prior to constructing CRC couldn't be implemented. The ultimate decision on any tolling options will be made by both the Washington and Oregon Transportation Commissions.

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waiting to see about building. Many parts of the country have toll bridges and roads, and it's high time we had the same here. Travel costs a lot already- and there are many hidden costs to congestion and traffic. Anything to reduce traffic and raise money directly from those who are driving a bridge or a busy road is a good thing.