



From: [J M MILLER](#)
 To: [Columbia River Crossing](#);
 CC:
 Subject: Bridges & light rail
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 Attachments:

P-0719-001

I could not stay for the public comments this evening but I would like to add my comments.

Vancouverites need to stop thinking only about today and have a vision for the future. Folks are too into " what's good for me" not what will the future folks need. With the projected growth of this area it is imperative that we go to light rail along with a new bridge. I lived in San Francisco when they were talking about BART. Oh, the naysayer's were at it. Now, tell the folks that you will take away BART and there would be riots.

As someone who was raised in the East, first close to Boston then close to New York City, I know how great rapid transit can be. The Westerners love affair with the car has to be modified as time goes on. Train travel is far superior to bus travel and unfortunately, bus riding has some history that draws it down in one's thinking. Folks don't mind riding a train but tell them they have to take a bus and suddenly it is a negative.

Thank you for the opportunity to have some input to this important issue.

Joan Miller
 11320 NE 10th Ave
 Vancouver WA 98685

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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.