


From: stevendbang@comcast.net
To: [Columbia River Crossing](#)
CC:
Subject: Traffic reduction idea
Date: Friday, May 30, 2008 10:41:49 AM
Attachments:

P-0825-001

I apologize if this idea has already been voiced. Has anyone thought about just plain reducing the traffic on the bridge? I don't have exact numbers but I understand that 65,000 to 85,000 people commute to work from Clark County to Portland every day and then home at night. Correct me if that number is wrong. If it's true, I'm guessing that is a huge percentage of the rush hour traffic.

If those people simply worked in Clark County, they would not need to commute to Portland. Has anyone ever analyzed who the top employers are who create the demand for commuters? If that analysis were done, and the employers approached with a plan to open Clark County offices or businesses, perhaps the volume of traffic could be reduced to the point where a new bridge would not be necessary. 

Businesses like incentives. Here's an idea. Perhaps Portland businesses could split the 9% income tax commuting employees would save by not working in Portland. The employer could save 4.5% and the employee would get a 4.5% raise. Everyone (except Salem) is happy. The billions of dollars needed for a new bridge would not have to be spent.

If this is a crazy idea, I'd like to know why.

Sincerely,
 Steve Bang
 Camas, WA (non-commuter)
 360-210-7189

P-0825-001

The construction of the CRC project is not intended to be a substitute for creating jobs in Clark County. The project's improvements for freight, reliability and transit access are expected to stimulate economic activity and job growth. The economic analysis indicates that job growth in Vancouver and at the Port of Vancouver will benefit from the project. The construction of the project itself will also provide jobs to workers in Clark County. Vancouver, Clark County, the Columbia River Economic Development Council, and other organizations work together to increase the jobs to population ratio in Clark County.