



From: [Red Warren](#)
To: [Columbia River Crossing](#)
CC:
Subject: Crossing decision
Date: Sunday, June 22, 2008 9:28:42 PM
Attachments:

P-1170-001 Please stop and reconsider another option: that of replacing the old rail bridge, adding lanes for trucks and cars. This would be less expensive and get some of those trucks off the interstate going through Portland, an unnecessary route for many. Many thanks for your consideration.
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P-1170-001

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, and several transit modes evaluated in screening were dropped from further consideration because they did not meet the Purpose and Need.

Regarding freight, the Vancouver-Portland region is a trade hub, acting as a gateway and distribution center for domestic and international markets. The region has become a trade hub, in large part, because of its direct access to the freeway system, navigable rivers, rail lines, and international air shipping. The region's continued competitiveness as a trade hub is dependent on the ability to efficiently move freight on and between these transportation facilities. Though a westerly alignment could be a convenient, cost-effective route for some freight trips, it cannot replace the role of I-5 as a freight route. For many freight trips, such a route would be out of direction, adding to travel time and shipping costs. Increased shipping costs can have a significant impact on the overall costs of doing business in our region, making us less competitive and threatening our status as a trade hub.