

**Hines, Maurice**

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**From:** David Madore [David.M@usdigital.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 10:16 PM  
**To:** Columbia River Crossing; David Madore  
**Subject:** CRC Light Rail Crossing Project – problem 8

24 Oct, 2011

Re: CRC Light Rail Crossing Project – problem 8

To: [feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org](mailto:feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org)

The NEPA violated obvious logic for political reasons

Please do not approve this project. Here are fundamental reasons why it should be rejected:

**P-067-001**

The CRC was based on obvious fallacious logic by adopting a solution that was clearly violated common sense.

Years ago, we could have started a \$5 billion experiment. Rather than spending 1/10 of that cost to widen their freeways, Portland could construct light rail on a grand scale throughout their city to relieve their traffic congestion. They could build a blue line, red line, a green line, and a yellow line.

They could clearly prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that spending gas taxes on light rail instead of highways would obviously solve their congestion problem.

When the I-205 was constructed, Glenn Jackson left a wide swath of green grass in the middle, enough to add multiple lanes in each direction to accommodate future demand and relieve congestion as needed. The experiment could include consuming that space with light rail instead. As Clark County drivers entered Portland, they could zip through congestion free and celebrate the success of the light rail experiment. Or they could sit there in stop and go traffic congestion with plenty of time to evaluate the failure of the experiment. In time, real world results would speak for itself.

Welcome to the year 2011 when we are clearly in a position to objectively evaluate Portland's \$5 billion experiment. The \$5 billion question is this: Has light rail solved their congestion problem? Is their traffic congestion much better or much worse than Clark County, where zero dollars were spent on light rail?

If light rail solved Portland's congestion problem, then Clark County should catch up and invest billions to bring it to our side of the river. If Portland's traffic congestion is a disaster, then wouldn't we be blind fools to squander our gas taxes on such a boondoggle in Clark County? After all, who could argue with a real world \$5 billion experiment?

It would be irresponsible to move forward with this project with such glaring red flags.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter to:

David Madore

**P-067-001**

Light rail transit alone is not intended to address the congestion-related need defined for the CRC project. Modeling indicates that some trips will shift from auto to transit, some trips will not be taken because of the toll, and highway improvements will provide additional congestion reduction.

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