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Comment Category: Pacific Street Interchange

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Address: , , 98112

Comment:

Based on what I've read and heard, I would like the governor to consider what makes sense as the best solution for all who are impacted by this project. I am especially concerned with cost and time estimates in the same way I have concerns over the downtown viaduct. Given these concerns, I believe the best solution on the 520 bridge project would be either the Pacific Interchange 6-lane option or the simple 4 lane replacement option. My reasons are as follows:

Pacific Interchange 6-lane option

This can help solve the bottleneck problems in the Montlake and U-district that is currently a big mess and will only get much worse. By diverting traffic north of the Montlake bridge, there should be much better traffic flow. I also believe this option provides much greater options for mass transit between downtown and U-district as well as the Eastside and all points west.

4-lane replacement option

Given the cost of the above option, I believe the 4-lane replacement option be a viable alternative. My reasons have to do with the fact that much of the single-occupancy traffic currently on 520 will find an alternative once tolls are in place. This means drivers may very well begin using I-90, or using carpools and bus transit to save on tolls. Paving more of our planet to solve a transportation is such a 20th century notion. The price of oil is not going to get any lower. To keep Washington a beautiful place to live and work, we must choose the right plan for the future and that plan includes choosing a solution that looks beyond today's transportation issues.

Mark Craemer

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

See Section 1.2 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.