

Online Comment by User: sehanson

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Comment Category: General Comments

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Address: , , 98112

Comment:

I-0864-001

I am writing to express my strongest possible support for the Pacific Interchange Option for the SR 520 reconstruction project. As a resident of Montlake who commutes daily to the UW, where I am a professor, I know first-hand just how bad the traffic congestion on Montlake Blvd. can get--not only at rush hour, but at almost anytime of day. Building a huge, multilane freeway right through the Portage Bay area will not only substantially degrade our quality of life in the Montlake neighborhood, with adverse impacts on wetlands and wildlife in the vicinity as well, but it will also make the congestion on Montlake Blvd. itself far worse than before, as an even greater number of cars fan out over our neighborhood each day. The only options for dealing with this new "Montlake mess" will involve turning Montlake Blvd. itself into a kind of mini-highway--and that, in turn, will necessitate the sacrifice of the lovely, historic Montlake drawbridge.

The Pacific Interchange Option, in contrast, will funnel cars to and from the areas around the UW precisely where traffic now builds up; it will greatly facilitate travel to Husky Stadium and the new UW Light Rail station; it will allow traffic from I-5 to travel more smoothly and safely onto the new 520 bridge (and vice versa); and it will preserve the historic Montlake neighborhood with its many parks, cultural resources, and natural areas.

Thank you for considering my feedback on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Stephen E. Hanson
2102 22nd Ave. E
Seattle, WA 98112

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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