

I-1170-001

Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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

October 29, 2006

1872 E. Hamlin Street
Seattle, WA 98112



Paul Krueger
Environmental Manager
SR520 Project Office
414 Olive Way, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: SR520 Project Draft EIS

Dear Mr. Krueger,

I-1170-001

My wife and I own our home at the above address in Montlake. We have had this property since 1985 and have carefully rebuilt and remodeled our home as family needs have arisen. We are also very much a part of our neighborhood. Our neighbors have had a leadership role in suggesting design alternatives to the proposed SR520 replacement. It is apparent to us that SR520 needs replacement. We comment now on the Draft EIS for this Project and wish our comments added to the record.

We support the Pacific Interchange Option and oppose all other alternatives. This option is the only proposal that links light rail and rapid transit on a new SR520. It also eliminates or greatly reduces the current bottleneck at the Montlake Bridge, and reduces impacts on our neighborhood.

There are a number of features of the SR520 Draft EIS that if implemented will improve traffic flow, mitigate impacts, and aide use of rapid transit with the Pacific Interchange Option. These include:

1. The Montlake Lid Area extending to the 24th Ave. E bridge over 520;
2. Taking Early Actions including widening Montlake Blvd. Between Pacific Place and 45th Street as soon as possible, and starting toll collections, also as soon as possible, to have revenue to help pay for the project and to help manage traffic during construction;
3. Optimizing transit ease of use and availability at the proposed new UW transit hub that will facilitate bus/rail transfers, pedestrian mobility with escalators and moving walkways, and bike and pedestrian use improvements with new bike lanes and connections to other trails.
4. Minimizing construction impacts. This is a major project that will take time to build. For those of us in the neighborhood assuring that we can get where we need to go and can continue to live in our homes with minimal noise, dust and rerouting will be very important. Sound barriers and quiet payment will make the longterm impacts much less.

In summary, the Pacific Interchange Option offers the only solution to the needed replacement of SR520. Many of the added improvements, as described in the Project Draft EIS, and some of which are summarized above, will contribute to a final project that offers maximum long term benefits for much improved mobility while addressing environmental and neighborhood concerns.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Robert W. Day, M.D.

Cynthia J. Taylor-Day