

I-1258-001
Comment Summary:
6-Lane Alternative

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

From: Steve Dahmus [mailto:stvdahmus@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tue 10/31/2006 1:52 PM
To: Swenson, Michael/BOI
Subject: eComment Issue

I-1258-001 | I couldn't add any comments where it said to so I am putting my comments here: hopefully you will notice them. I live at 908 -14th Avenue East in Seattle's Capitol Hill. This whole proposal is crap - I HATE it. I have lived in the Montlake/Arboretum/North Capitol Hill area since 1989. I visit the Foster Island Walk many times through the year and the Arboretum as well. This 6 lane plan and the Pacific Interchange is a gross disgusting use of public park, irreplaceable public park space in a city where population is getting dense every year by design - which is a good idea. But all these people need QUIET spaces and parks to be in otherwise you are going to ruin the quality of living in this city.

It is unbelievably stupid to ruin one of the nicest areas in the city, mobbed on weekends by city dwellers, NOT for the weekly commute but rather for WEEKEND traffic as reported in this morning's Seattle P-I [10/31/06]. How short-sighted can you get? My God!?!?! Let those people drive around on I-90 for God's sake - does it really ruin their weekend if they have to drive 10 minutes further south to I-90??? Just so people can shop you want to ruin one of the city's best parks and mar one of the world's most important arboretums. I am a life-long professional garden designer and horticulturist and know what I am talking about when it comes to the Arboretum. Keep your grubby hands off of it!! How dare you put a behemoth freeway right through the middle of it. With the tear-down of the Viaduct this city is trying to CREATE park space, people, and yet you want to mar a park in another area. Perhaps we should install off ramps from the Viaduct into the park near the Pike Place Market so weekenders can get there easier. That would be progress, right?

How about this: keep a similarly slim 520 with a new bridge that is fitted with light-rail. I say this because we should not be promoting more cars into the core area of Seattle - we should be trying to get fewer and fewer cars into the core area like European cities and Vancouver are doing. Have weekenders and weekly commuters come and go on light rail leaving 520 for those who really have to take a car. That is 21st century Seattle thinking where more and more population will be living in the Puget Sound area and whose cars will simply choke that new bigger bridge by the time it's finished. Please think!

Mount Baker got a tunnel when you expanded the road through their neighborhood. Mercer Island got a lowered elevation freeway AND a billion dollar tunnel when you expanded the road through their neighborhood. NOW, in MY neighborhood, you just want to bulldoze your way through with car decks that block out the sun creating large dead vegetation areas under them where once there was park, create massive amounts of noise where once kayakers got respite on Saturday mornings with grebes and pintails, and forever slap concrete right in the middle of what is a national legacy in the form of the Olmstead Brother's plan! Nice plan, guys! Do you really get paid for these suggestions????????????????? How about let's pave over your local park wherever you live.

Steve Dahmus

I-1258-001 | - living in Seattle area since 1983
- longtime resident of proposed 520 bridge

PS Did I say how much I HATE THIS IDEA?!?!