Online Comment by User: Janice Palm

Submitted on: 8/24/2006 10:32:00 PM
Comment Category: Comments on Alternatives
Comment Location: Chapter-1, Page-1
Address: , , 98102
Comment:
I am in support of the "Pacific Interchange" plan for SR520 - there are many important advantages to this plan, especially the environmental sensitivity, mass transit opportunities, and the addition of more and improved park area. HOWEVER, the most important feature of this plan is the addition of a 6-LANE highway rather than a 9-lane highway. I live and work in the Portage Bay/Montlake area and can hardly fathom the negative impact that a 9-lane 520 would create. PLEASE BE SENSITIVE TO THOSE OF US WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE AREA AND WOULD BE IMPACTED FULL-TIME BY THE SENSELESS AND IRRESPONSIBLE PLAN FOR A 9-LANE HIGHWAY STREAMING THROUGH OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

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Comment:
After reading about the proposed changes to the 520 bridge, attending the informational meetings, and considering the possibilities, I am recommending that any changes to the bridge be primarily for stability and safety rather than to ease traffic congestion. I live in the Portage Bay/Montlake area and use the bridge several times a week to get to work - I deal with the traffic congestion both ways and I am STILL recommending that outside of the possibility of adding 1 HOV lane, the bridge not be expanded.

There is simply too much negative environmental and life quality impact of increasing the bridge to 6 lanes. It's true that there's traffic congestion now and it's also true that within just a few years of creating a 'super-highway' across the lake, the traffic will be congested. Then we'll have destroyed the Arboretum, created an unsightly and disruptive bridge intersection, ruined the beautiful Montlake Bridge AND we'll have congestion.

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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