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STATEMENT OF WILLIAM PAYNE

I-0398-002

I live in Kirkland. I want to comment about 520, the
4 bridge.

5 The issue for me is not replacing the existing bridge
6 with a structure likened similar to the one that is in place. At
7 that point, we're not doing anything or little to solve the
8 traffic problems. All we're going to wind up doing is having a
9 new shiny bridge that everybody is going to say is much safer and
10 perhaps one carpool lane trying to force people into a carpool
11 lane that they won't take.

12 Buses and carpool lanes are not the answer. The answer
13 is a larger bridge, bigger bridge, more lanes, a new and safe
14 structure.

15 You're never going to satisfy anybody. The challenge
16 here today really is trying to figure out how you can merge a six
17 or an eight lane bridge into I-5 and/or 405 and Mountlake. Those
18 are the challenges, and that's what needs to be focused on, not
19 the bridge, not the noise, not the pollution, not the tolls.
20 It's how to eliminate the traffic problem.

21 Putting a new shiny bridge up will not eliminate the
22 problem in the evenings looking at traffic going westbound on
23 520. It will not eliminate that at all. And again, you're not
24 going to force people into carpools. And one of the worst things
25 is the carpool lane used to be two people on 520, and so many

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Comment Summary:

Alternatives Development

Response:

See Section 1.1 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

