

The Montlake Flyer

It Is Decision Time for SR 520: SPEAK UP!

THIS TOPIC IS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO MONTLAKE!

Please give us your attention and support.

The time for the State to make its final selection is finally here and with the release of the SR520 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), we have one last chance to state our preference for the design of this project. SR520 is going to be replaced. The question is, with what? We need to make our voices heard loud and clear that the **Pacific Interchange** plan is the only option that works for Montlake and the region.

As presidents of the Montlake Community Club during the critical phase of planning, design and study for the SR520 project we have become intimately familiar with the SR520 options. The **Pacific Interchange** is the only option that improves transit within Seattle and to the Eastside; it is the only option that significantly relieves the notorious traffic bottleneck along Montlake Boulevard; it is the only option that allows for a viable lid through Montlake and enhances the integrity and character of our neighborhood.

How do you comment? The State has set up a website to facilitate this process:
WSDOT 520 (DEIS) Public Comment Link: <http://www.sr520deiscomments.com/>

Or you may mail your written comments to: Paul Kruger, Environmental Manager, SR 520 Project Office, 414 Olive Way, Suite 400, Seattle, WA 98101. Your comments can be as simple as "I support the Pacific Interchange Option" or as elaborate as you want to make them. But every comment counts! We need thousands of them to prevail. In this issue of the Montlake Flyer you will find some helpful "talking points", a diagram and reply card to send to WSDOT if you prefer this approach.

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Please! Pacific Interchange option!

The **Pacific Interchange Option** is endorsed by the *Montlake Community Council*, the *North Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council*, *Bicycle Alliance*, *Queen City Yacht Club* and the *North Seattle Industrial Association*. More endorsements are on the way. It is actively supported by hundreds of residents from many neighborhoods throughout Seattle. According to WSDOT, The Pacific Interchange Option will reconnect our neighborhood, create new bus service on our local streets, eliminate backups on the Montlake Blvd., create a new transit hub at the UW, and add a new park connecting the Montlake Playfield with the Arboretum. While here is some political momentum for the Pacific Interchange among key decision makers within the city and across the state, we need to speak out overwhelmingly in support of the **Pacific Interchange Plan** in order to prevent the State from selecting one of the disastrous alternatives (the "Base-Six" option of the "Base-Six" with a second Montlake drawbridge).

Although we have tenaciously fought to oppose the Base-Six plan, it is still very much in the running. If the Base-Six option is selected our streets will be condemned to never ending congestion, buses will not be able to run on time, air will be polluted and time will be wasted. **Montlake residents along the boulevard may lose their homes.** Picture a wedge of concrete nearly four times wider than the current 520 interchange running right through the heart of Montlake, nine lanes over Portage Bay and no new park system in Montlake. This nightmare will become a reality if we don't act now.

We hope that **EVERY** resident in Montlake takes a few minutes to write or email your support for the **Pacific Interchange Plan**. Please forward the public comment link to as many of your family and friends as possible who live in the region with a note asking for their support. *They all have a stake in this, too!*

Sincerely yours,

Robert Rosencrantz - President
Bob Mahon - President (2005-2006)
Ken Schubert - President (2003-2005)
Jonathan Dubman - President (2002-2003)

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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