

From: annegantt@gmail.com [mailto:annegantt@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 12:48 PM
To: SR 520 Bridge Replacement & HOV Project
Subject: SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program Feedback

Sent from: Anne Gantt
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Comments:

Please, say it isn't too late to rethink the commuting options! Bus lanes are good, but if we don't put in a light-rail option now, we never will. And it should go directly from Seattle into downtown Bellevue and other city centers. I live in the U-District but never cross 520 to Bellevue. If there was a good light rail link, I would go often, and bring my children shopping there. But if there is no transit option, I will stay in Seattle. Please, add a light rail line! Sincerely, Anne Gantt

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The SR 520, I-5 to Medina project would complete the HOV lane system in the corridor, improving reliability and efficiency for transit. It would also allow for implementation of bus rapid transit that runs in the HOV lane in the near term. Section 2.4 in the Final EIS explains why initial implementation of light rail transit on SR 520 is not planned. The Montlake Multimodal Center, was collaboratively planned as part of the 2008 High Capacity Transit Plan under ESSB 6099, will serve as a major transfer point between the University Link rail station, the proposed SR 520 bus rapid transit lines, and local bus service. Chapter 8 of the Final Transportation Discipline Report (Attachment 7 to the Final EIS) provides updated information regarding the Montlake Multimodal Center and the effects of the project on transit connections in the Montlake area.

The SR 520, I-5 to Medina project would also allow for future potential light rail in the SR 520 corridor, should the regional decision to add light rail be made and funded. See Chapter 2 of the Final EIS for further discussion.