

H-011-001

1 yet still appears on the Draft Environmental Impact
2 Statement.

3 We are, again, extremely opposed to the concept of
4 the Broad Street detour option, bringing all truck traffic
5 from I-99 Southbound down Broad Street, onto Alaskan Way.

6 Thank you.

7 WILLIAM RAMIREZ: (Through the Spanish Interpreter.)
8 Good afternoon. My name is William Ramirez. I come on
9 behalf of Casa Latina. I have one comment, and some
10 concerns. For my comment I have two points that I'd like
11 to make. Okay. So they've told us that they have a
12 project with Viaduct, that they want to move, because of
13 the Viaduct they want to move us to a different location.
14 Okay. So I would just like to mention that the place where
15 the Castle Latina now is located, and where the workers
16 congregate, is a place where we are together from early in
17 the morning until late in the evening.

18 For us, Casa Latina is the area that we congregate,
19 is very important, and it's very important for the Latino
20 community in Seattle, Washington. So, the reason that it
21 is so important for us is that we are working every day
22 from this place to be able to support our families. I
23 would like to ask, then, the City of Seattle and the
24 administrative personnel of the City, that they consider
25 this point: I would just like to ask that you consider

22

H-011-001

In March 2009, Casa Latina moved to their new building east of I-5 in the International District neighborhood. The new location is outside of the Alaskan Way Viaduct project area.

WSDOT will comply with the federal requirements for disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) participation. WSDOT cannot require contractors to hire workers from specific organizations. However, WSDOT can and does encourage contractors to work with local organizations and to develop programs that draw on the local labor pool.

1 very seriously where we will go if we are moved and, as
2 Hispanics in this country, what will happen to us as part
3 of this project.

4 So, my first point is that, as Hispanics and as
5 members of Casa Latina, so that they, in the projects, that
6 will be as construction and other projects, as part of the
7 overall Viaduct project, that they give us priority and
8 that they provide some sort of jobs for us to be part of
9 the overall project. And so, it would be acceptable, any
10 kind of position, a general laborer, or whatever kind of
11 position that we could have with the project, because
12 Casa Latina has qualified workers. They've been trained to
13 do various different types of jobs.

14 The second point, and I'll conclude after this, we
15 understand and we respect why the City is going to move us
16 from this place. I'd like to mention again, knowing that
17 the City is going to move us, and that they are going to
18 help us to find a new location, we ask that it be in a
19 place that is very easy for people to get to, and very easy
20 for the people who need workers to come to and pick up the
21 different workers. We need easy access. So, we know that
22 the City could put us in a very spacious place anywhere,
23 that they could find some extra space, but it's very
24 important for us to be in a place that's close to the
25 center, and that it's easy for the people who need workers

1 to come and pick people up.

2 Okay. And that's it. Thank you very much.

3 FERMIN MONTANO: (Through the Spanish Interpreter.)

4 So, I agree that and I support that they have a new place
5 for Casa Latina. And this is for our families, and so that
6 we can support our families. And I would prefer that, if
7 possible, that it be that the jobs that they find are more
8 stable, longer lasting positions, rather than just a few
9 days. Maybe more like six months is better for the
10 Casa Latina workers, because the Casa Latina workers are
11 very good workers, and they're good workers, they've come
12 here to help the City of Seattle, and hope the opposite
13 happens as well, that the Seattle citizens help the
14 Casa Latina workers as well.

15 Another point, so, I would like that the support
16 that Casa Latina will get to be more formal and happen
17 sooner rather than later. So, I don't have much else to
18 say, but just that hopefully we can get help and that
19 everybody will do their part in order to make this happen.

20 I would also just like work. We'll all be more
21 secure, if we have jobs that last for longer than just
22 today. And because people are always going to be coming
23 back, day after day after day, as it is now. Okay.

24 LUIS FLORES: (Through the Spanish Interpreter.) My
25 name is Luis Flores, and I come on behalf of Casa Latina,