

From: [Jason Schmidt](#)
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CC:
Subject: Fw: Alternate Viaduct plan
Date: Sunday, September 17, 2006 1:35:32 PM
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[mapimageLg2.GIF](#)

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/Viaduct/>

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I-646-001 I believe there is an alternative Viaduct replacement plan which I have not seen reviewed and it would provide a cheaper, less painful solution to most issues. This plan would involve building a modern elevated connector from current 99 at Massachusetts Ave to the I-5 / I-90 interchange, and surface connector from I-5 at Mercer St to current 99 route. Then pushing I-5 into the express lanes between I-90 and I-520, which may require further tunneling, but less troublesome and expensive than the waterfront area.

The advantages of this plan would be:

1. Viaduct would remain open during period of construction, reducing impact on traffic.
2. Revitalize waterfront between Massachusetts Ave and Pike Place.
3. Improvements to Alaskan Way and bike path.
4. Provide excellent corridor for light rail service from N. Seattle to S. Seattle/W. Seattle along the old Viaduct route. This would include excellent access to Quest, Safeco, downtown and waterfront.
5. Improve traffic flow to/from Quest and Safeco via ramps to new 99.
6. Improve flow of N/S through traffic on I-5 due to local traffic being routed onto the new 99 which would utilize the current surface I-5 in downtown.
7. Possibly receive more federal funds for impact to I-5 and I-90.
8. Allow the already built rail spur adjacent to Terminal 46 to be utilized.

I-646-001

FHWA, WSDOT, and the City of Seattle appreciate receiving your suggestions for an additional project alternative. The project has evolved since 2006, so please refer to the Final EIS for information about the current build alternatives being considered.

Attached are quick sketches of the plan.

Please feel free to contact me for more info.

Respectfully,
Jason T. Schmidt

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