

H-021-001

1 MAS KOB: Well, my name is Mas Koba, spelled M-a-s,
2 and then the last name, K-o-b-a. And as far as my
3 residential address, 1726 - 15th Avenue, and that's
4 Seattle, 98122, in Seattle.

5 And as far as this viaduct and this seawall they're
6 constructing, that's costing something about
7 \$2-and-a-half-billion dollars to, I'd say, over about
8 almost \$1-billion dollars, it seems like it's a lot of
9 money there, but I'd say one of the things that they can't
10 or they probably could think about is to try to extend the
11 viaduct going north, all the way to the Interbay, and then
12 over to North Magnolia, along the canal there, and then
13 into the Discovery Park, and then from there, from
14 West Point, be able to connect, have a cross Sound
15 connection over to Bainbridge Island, and over to the
16 peninsula. And then, you can charge toll on the thing.

17 And then the other route would be going south, going
18 on the existing road there, going over to West Seattle, and
19 possibly if they want to go all the way down to Fontelroy,
20 be able to go from the Fontelroy Ferry and to go across,
21 have a cross Sound connection over to Vashon Islands, and
22 then over the to the peninsula. Or, if they don't want to
23 go down to Fontelroy, the other way would be go over to
24 West Point, or I should say Alakai Point, and have a cross
25 Sound bridge starting from there over to the Vashon, and

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Thank you for your comments. The purpose and need for this project is to replace SR 99 along the Seattle waterfront. The recommendations that you have provided are beyond the scope of this project.

1 then over to the peninsula.

2 And I'd say this should be there because, well, one
3 thing is to replace that ferry system that the State is
4 running, because that ferry system is a money loser. The
5 people of the state are subsidizing that thing, and I think
6 that it's about time. This is the 21st Century age, and we
7 can't do something there that's -- or start way back in the
8 19th Century and using 19th Century ideas, but go into the
9 21st Century age. That's something we can be able to think
10 about.

11 We can make this a toll, the whole thing, starting
12 from the Vashon Islands and going into Seattle downtown
13 area, over to West Point and over, and make that entire
14 route a toll road. And I'd say a toll road and a toll
15 bridge, because I think a toll system will work a lot
16 better, if they were all connected, all the bridges and the
17 Alaskan Way Viaduct.

18 And from the past history, this is something that's
19 not new, it's been started with this idea that was thought
20 about way back in, I'd say, the early 40's, and they were
21 planning to do something like this, you know. The idea
22 about having a cross Sound bridge, the idea was favored by
23 even one of the governors who was a Republican governor, by
24 the name of Arthur Langley. But, he was all in favor of
25 doing something like this, because at that time the ferry

1 system was privately owned and they were trying to build
2 the money or, I should say — yeah, they were trying to
3 vote the people out of raising the fair every damned time,
4 and it was getting very expensive for people to be paying
5 this amount of money, so the State went and stepped in and
6 they said — and they were trying to control it, as far as
7 the pay increase on the toll, I should say on the — you
8 know, yeah, they were trying to increase the fair on the
9 ferry. But, so, when the State came out with this idea,
10 well, we're going to put in a bridge and that would just —
11 and they told them, "Well, you guys are not going to be in
12 business after we put the bridge in," which was sort of a
13 black mailing somewhat. And so they said, "Well, the thing
14 you can do is just sell the ferry system to us, and then
15 we'll build this bridge, and then the ferries, we won't
16 have the use of the ferries no more."

17 Well, the thing is, the State went and bought out
18 the ferry system, but they never ever built the dog gone
19 bridges, so for the last 50 years it's been sort of a
20 concept and an idea that many people like myself still do
21 remember that. And I say now is the time that we should
22 start thinking about doing something like this, rather than
23 having a ferry system which is doing nothing but just
24 costing us money every damned time that we have our eyes on
25 the damned thing. That just doesn't seem to make any

1 sense, to go out and subsidize it. So, if they say, "Well,
2 as far as how much it would cost to put up a system like
3 this," well, who knows? It may cost maybe about
4 \$100-billion. Well, you know, when they built the first
5 Lake Washington bridge, they said that the cost would be
6 over \$10-million or something. And people were saying were
7 squabbling back then, they were squawking the darned thing
8 was expensive, it would never ever work, you know, and they
9 were trying to fight it from going in. But I think they
10 were fighting for something like about 5 years or 10 years,
11 or whatever it was, but they finally went and built that
12 thing, and after they built that thing, that thing made
13 money. They were expecting the thing would be paid for
14 within about 20 years. They've had that thing paid off in
15 about 5 years.

16 And, when they put in the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, the
17 first one, when it went down, it was about the same time
18 that they opened up the Lake Washington Bridge, the first
19 one. Well, when they built the second one there, which is
20 back in 1950, they built it more sturdier, and it cost
21 about twice as much as the first one that they built up,
22 and that thing got paid off in something like 14 years or
23 so. And the same thing happened to the Evergreen Bridge.
24 That was on — they were all paid off by tolls. Whoever
25 uses that thing, you know, it was — it's a — you know,

1 users pay. That works. So, it didn't cost anybody
2 anything else, except the dog gone people who were using
3 the thing. So, it makes sense to do something like that.

4 If they can, you know, build the cross Sound bridge,
5 the two cross Sound bridges, and then have this, you know,
6 Alaskan Way Viaduct included with it, and make that entire
7 route a toll road or toll bridge. But, I think just, you
8 know, if either one of them would just had stand alone on
9 the thing, I don't think it would work because, you know,
10 you got to have a connection of some kind in order for
11 these, you know, the three places to — two cross Sound
12 bridges, and that connecting of Alaskan Way Viaduct.

13 Anyway, that's what I got to say on that.

14 **BRUCE FINE:** My name is Bruce Fine, and I live on
15 the waterfront. I'm concerned that they have not addressed
16 adequately the notion of having traffic be either
17 eliminated, or substantially impeded, during the
18 construction period. It appears that there's a presumption
19 that traffic needs to continue to flow through this area
20 while construction is going on, as a result of which there
21 are a number of mitigation, temporary measures, and so
22 forth, which extend the construction time and substantially
23 divert resources from the actual project to these temporary
24 mitigation issues.

25 I would like it see them consider a couple of