

March 31, 2004

Greg Nickels  
PO Box 94749  
Seattle, WA  
98124-4749

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CITY OF SEATTLE  
MAYOR'S OFFICE

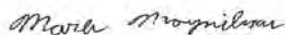
Dear Greg Nickels,

I, a student at Bishop Blanchet High School, have two issues I want to talk to you about. I am writing a paper on the future project of re-building or fixing the Alaskan Way Viaduct. Choosing the project that best fits Seattle's needs is the question I am asking you.

**I-372-001** Seattle, mostly on the liberal side, is dreaming for any kind of tunnel so that the waterfront has potential to become a very welcoming, park filled entrance to the city. I am in favor of what these people are towards for Seattle's upcoming, major project. The Viaduct has been a massive concrete wall separating the city from the waterfront for over fifty years and I think it has to go. I have lived in Seattle for my entire life and rarely go to the waterfront, because the Viaduct inconveniently blocks it. Though the tunnel option comes out to the highest price, I think we have the most potential as one of America's main port cities to have a new, populated waterfront. Imagining Seattle without the Viaduct just blows me away because such a dream would generate a much more lively waterfront in which all Seattle lights would want to visit. Mayor, Greg Nickels, what is your opinion on this up coming project? I have researched and found information of you asking for federal funding for this project. What do you plan to do with this money? I am eager to hear your response because if this new Alaskan Way Viaduct becomes a tunnel without a massive cement structure, me and many other residents of Seattle would be grateful.

**I-372-003** The second issue is on the future of Seattle's downtown. After reading Gordon Price's quote taken on November 25, 2003, I wondered on what the upcoming Seattle downtown would look like. I have always been interested in all sorts of architecture, city skyscraper building and running the city as the mayor in certain video game simulators. For the past couple of years these have been my main hobbies in which all of my other interests somewhat revolve around. In this section of Price's quote, "there's a sense in Seattle that maybe things are finally coming together for the Emerald City," what does he mean by this. Since it was on a your home page, it seems like you would know the answer to my question. What am I, a Seattle Light going to expect for the future of Seattle's downtown? What about, "a denser downtown, with a web of transportation services." Can I expect to see Seattle without it's horrible traffic problems in the near future, or is this a far from present dream of yours or Price's? When I think of the future of Seattle, I hope to see many of its traffic problems fixed to some extent, but from the recent past and present problems in its transportation system, I don't know how believable this dream is. I hope you can send me some plans for what Seattle is planning to do to come together as a linked city. I want to believe Seattle is seeing a bright future, I just don't see any straight facts on what is planning to happen. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Moynihan

10523 15TH AVE NW, SEATTLE WA 98177

### I-372-001

FHWA, WSDOT, and the City of Seattle appreciate receiving your comments on the 2004 Cut-and-Cover Tunnel Alternative. The alignment for the Cut-and-Cover Tunnel Alternative has been refined in the Final EIS. The lead agencies have identified the Bored Tunnel Alternative as the preferred alternative due to its ability to best meet the project's identified purposes and needs and the support it has received from diverse interests. Because the project has evolved since comments were submitted in 2004, please refer to the Final EIS for current information.

### I-372-002

The project has already received some federal funding to aid with design, and some additional federal funding is expected for construction, although the majority of funds will be from state and local sources. Please see the Final EIS for current information.

### I-372-003

Thank you for submitting your comment and request for more information about the Mayor's vision for the City of Seattle. Your comment specifically refers to projects the City of Seattle is undertaking separately from the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Project. For more information on the Mayor's vision for the City, please refer to the City's website at: <http://www.seattle.gov/>

Information on the topics you specifically mention in your letter can be found at:

[http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Planning/Downtown\\_Zoning\\_Changes/Final EIS/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Planning/Downtown_Zoning_Changes/Final_EIS/default.asp)