

I-502-001

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From: Randal Thatcher [mailto:chuckleheads@worldnet.att.net]

Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2004 9:44 AM

To: awydeiscomments@wsdot.wa.gov

Subject: viaduct replacement

Hello Seattle City and King County Council members,

Thanks for all you do for the citizens of Seattle and King County.

I just wanted to make a quick e-appeal to all of you respecting the proposed replacement of the Alaskan Way viaduct. It seems our viaduct problem also presents us with a unique opportunity to give our Seattle waterfront a rejuvenating facelift.

I envision a vibrant, revitalized waterfront, without that cement, double-decker eye-sore; I see a waterfront with less car traffic and more pedestrian and bicycle traffic, connecting downtown neighborhoods with Pike Place Market, Steinbrueck and Myrtle Edwards Parks.

[I bike from downtown (Western and Spring) to Magnolia via Alaskan Way and Myrtle Edwards bike trail at least twice a week, and would sorely grieve were that waterfront route to be swallowed up, or even compromised, by a major highway system along that corridor.]

It's a lovely vision, but also--I realize--an expensive one. A tunnel alternative seems the ideal solution from the aesthetic and livability perspectives. The question, I suppose, is whether a tunnel is economically feasible. I sure hope so.

Thanks for your time and attention,

-R. Thatcher

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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.