

From: Elspeth Hilton [mailto:elspeth.hilton@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 2:39 PM
To: WSDOT AWW 2011 FEIS Comments
Subject: Replace the Viaduct with smart city planning, not a tunnel

I-008-001

After the FEIS was published showing that a deep bore tunnel will make little improvement to what traffic would be like if the viaduct simply fell down and was not replaced, it is clear that an expensive, risky, highway project is both financially irresponsible but also a bad investment. I encourage WSDOT to instead support a smarter plan for transportation and land use in Seattle by improving the downtown grid via traffic planning, investing in transit, and adding a lane to I-5 where possible and appropriate. Seattle is a progressive city full of citizens that fully embraces transit, walking and biking as their form of transportation. Others would embrace those modes if they were safer, more frequent and available in more routes (such as Ballard to West Seattle). Rather than building a tunnel that bypasses the city, meeting the needs of a few, please make a plan for the future that meets the needs of many and continues to move Seattle towards a bike, bus and walking friendly city that also has smart traffic planning for those who need to drive. Though highways have their time and place, downtown Seattle is not it. Please reconsider the plan for replacing the Alaska Way Viaduct with a deep bore tunnel - the FEIS makes clear it is not worth the money, and will not be an effective response to the traffic and transportation needs of the city.

Best,
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In the Final EIS, Chapter 5, Question 1 describes what would happen if the viaduct isn't replaced. Extensive analysis has been completed throughout the course of this project as described in Chapter 2, Alternatives Development, of the Final EIS.