

**From:** [Debbie Mowat](#)  
**To:** [Swenson, Michael/BOI](#)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** eComment Issue  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2006 8:52:56 PM  
**Attachments:**

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**I-0453-001** Hello,  
I found it so difficult to figure out where to insert my comments about the 520 project, that I am simply sending them via email. Please get back with me and assure me that my comments have gotten through.

**I-0453-002** I am very glad that the development of the 520 bridge project is underway. I do however have a grave concern about a decision that appears to be a "fait accompli." Reading over the plans, there seems to be no real room for comment or movement about this issue. The issue is tolls.

I feel very strongly that creating a toll system is going to have considerable social impact on this area. The fluid movement between Seattle and the Eastside will change, and psychologically there will be an added barrier. Perhaps there is a hope among the designers that there is such a barrier . Because one of the joys of living out here is being able to access the city easily, I feel very strongly that the building of this bridge should be born by all tax payers, and perhaps more so by larger corporate interests such as Microsoft who depend so strongly on the bridge. In practice, a toll system feels bad to use, and if you haven't grown up around it as I have, you'll have no idea what I am talking about. One feels like they are constantly being "bilked" to use a road. One of the things I consciously appreciated about moving out here 15 years ago is that there were not toll roads. Toll roads create social class weirdness--and you can go back to Roman history and take a look at that if you need to.

#### **I-0453-001**

##### **Comment Summary:**

Public and Agency Outreach

##### **Response:**

See Section 1.3 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

#### **I-0453-002**

##### **Comment Summary:**

Tolling Scenarios, Pricing, and Revenue

##### **Response:**

See Section 3.3 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

I-0453-002 | Please, please reconsider this. Don't count on simply asking people through focus groups and other methods of social research, to give you reliable answers to questions about toll roads. If someone has not had direct experience with toll roads they really don't have experience to go on.

Thanks for all your work.

**NO TOLLS**

Deb Mowat