

**I-0545-001**

**Comment Summary:**

Pacific Street Interchange Option

**Response:**

See Section 1.2 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

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**From:** Barry Reiss and Linda Lekness [mailto:jbreiss1@comcast.net]

**Sent:** Friday, October 06, 2006 7:10 AM

**To:** SR 520 DEIS Comments

**Subject:** Pacific Street Interchange

October 6, 2006

WSDOT 520 Office

**I-0545-001**

The purpose of this letter is to urge you to support the **Pacific Street Interchange**.

The Pacific Street Interchange Plan significantly reduces the footprint from nine lanes to six over Portage Bay and creates a new park system from the Montlake Playfield to the Arboretum over a freeway lid through Montlake, but it will still double the width of the existing SR 520 over Portage Bay and through North Capitol Hill to I-5. It will still mean that residents who live or travel through Montlake and North Capitol Hill will be in a hard hat zone for eight years or longer. But this will be worth it in the long run.

When this project is completed we will see the Montlake neighborhood reconnected. Residents will enjoy a new park system and bike trails. Residents will also be able to use the first class transit system that connects buses with trains at the Sound Transit Station at the University of Washington. Bus service will improve north and south. Residents on both sides of the lake will be able to get to work on fast and reliable transit with access to the growing job markets on the Eastside.

The University of Washington will also be a winner. With direct access to campus and their sports and medical complexes by transit, car and for emergency vehicles, the UW will be able to achieve their expansion goals while accommodating the traffic this growth will inevitably create. The University of Washington is at the center of a high tech corridor anchored by Microsoft on the east and the emerging biotech center in Seattle. They have strategic connections and relationships with these growing industries. The movement of the people who will make these connections and relationships possible should be a critical part of the UW's long term strategic thinking.

Again, I urge you to support the Pacific Street Interchange.

Sincerely,

Linda M Lekness  
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