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Comment Category: Comments on Environmental Effects

Comment Location: Chapter-7, Page-7

Address: 5008 44th Ave. S., Seattle, Washington 98118

Comment:

I-0623-001

I have strong concerns regarding the environmental effects of the proposed rebuild of the SR 520 bridge, particularly the effects on the beautiful, sensitive wetlands in the Arboretum in Seattle. These wetlands are a rare and precious gift of nature that are already seriously affected by the existing SR 520 bridge. I understand that some of the features of the rebuilt bridge will mitigate environmental problems, and I appreciate that. But expanding the bridge to 6 lanes, particularly if it is moved as in the Pacific Street Interchange option, would have an unacceptably large impact on the many plants and creatures that live in the wetlands, as well as on the overall beauty and peacefulness of the place. So much of the original environment of Seattle has been changed or destroyed to make room for humans' needs. In this case, we have a chance, given present-day science and technology, to know ahead of time the consequences of our actions. Even if WSDOT "creates" new wetlands to replace what is lost, we will never recover the spirit of the place. I urge you to choose the build option that has the least effect on these wetlands, the 4-lane alternative. With all the changes now underway in mass transit and human consciousness about global warming, it doesn't make sense to destroy irreplaceable natural resources to make room for more cars occupied by one person. Thank you very much.

I-0623-002

June BlueSpruce, 5008 44th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118

I-0623-001

Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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

I-0623-002

Comment Summary:

4-Lane Alternative

Response:

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