

I-0824-001

Comment Summary:

Eastside Concerns

Response:

See Section 24.0 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

Online Comment by User: Richard

Submitted on: 10/23/2006 4:13:00 PM

Comment Category: Comments on Construction Effects

Comment Location: Chapter-9, Page-15

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Comment:

Regarding the environmental impact statement for the expanded 520 bridge, please note my following objections/comments.

I-0824-001

Very, very, very little information and research have been done in regards to the area around the Bellevue Way exit. This area, where eastbound 520 exits onto Bellevue Way, is the area that will have the most re-work and expansion done. Yet, there are no photos in the statement of how this will affect the residents around this area, nor are there any concrete reliable data as to how this additional noise will affect the residents in this region.

Specifically, I am thinking of the 40 or 30 or so residents who are in and around 103rd place NE, and 103rd Ave NE, who will be the MOST impacted residents on the entire project. Almost no time was given to them in the impact statement.

In addition, there is a large population located right after the exit who will also be affected. No information on them is shown at all.

The environmental impact statement hardly mentions these areas of 100's of residences, yet it goes on continuously about Yarrows Point, bicycles, Medina and park and rides.

- 1) Reduce the amount and size of the lanes called for in the exit area around Bellevue Way.
- 2) Alternatives to the expansion (widening) of the highway in 1 direction, (south towards Bellevue), need to be looked at. The widening of 520 south, towards Bellevue needs to be reduced and consideration made to widening the road northward in addition to southward. Specifically, there needs to be less widening of the highway in the area before the Bellevue Way exit as well as at the Bellevue Way exit. This area currently is home to a large and vibrant wildlife and their habitat needs to be preserved.
- 3) Better, more, or any research on how the highway traffic will affect traffic on Bellevue Way needs to be done.
- 4) Reliable noise analysis needs to be made taking into account car noise, exhaust noise, and noise at other than peak times as well as in different weather. The noise models made do not reflect actual sound experienced in the various locations. Noise measurements at 3 pm do not accurately reflect the sounds experienced throughout the day.
- 6) The exit ramps onto the highway, westbound, need to be designed and set up so the late night exhaust noise of "racers", cars trying to race onto the highway, will be reduced or eliminated.

I-0824-001

7) Research into late night car noise needs to be done and how the current project will affect residences around the Bellevue Way exit.

8) If necessary, higher sound walls may be needed

9) In your environmental Impact statement, Chapter 7, page 15, you mention "the only location where noise levels would not improve is in Bellevue, north of State Road 520 and east of 405". Please confirm this location as I think you are referring to Bellevue Way.

There is a large group of residents living in and around the area on either side of the Bellevue Way exit and more research needs to be done as to alternatives to sound need to be produced for these people.