

I-0830-001

Online Comment by User: Robert Hayden

Submitted on: 9/12/2006 9:36:00 PM

Comment Category: Pacific Street Interchange

Comment Location: Chapter-7, Page-12

Address: , , 98112-2006

Comment:

The Pacific Street Interchange is clearly the best choice as it will greatly reduce the gridlock that exists on Montlake Blvd. I have lived in Montlake for over 40 years and have continued to watch the traffic get worse and worse as time goes by. The Pacific Interchange will help alleviate the traffic congestion from the UVillage to Capital Hill. Plus it will finally connect our other forms of transportation into a true system. Bikers will be able to go directly from the Burke Gilman trail onto the new bridge and cross to the east side, or board a bus or light rail all at one intersection. Plus the traffic whether car or bus will not get caught by the Montlake Bridge openings if they desire to either go onto the Evergreen Bridge or take the Portage Bay Viaduct to I-5.

The Pacific Interchange will also reduce congestion from Husky stadium to the UVillage, which has to be one of the worst corridors in Washington State. It is currently faster for me to drive around Portage Bay to Montlake if I have been shopping in the UVillage, then it is to drive down Montlake Blvd and cross the Montlake Bridge. This is really sad and has been the case for the past 10 years. Adding another Montlake Bridge (which opens) and adding more lanes and off ramps at the current Montlake Blvd./SR 520 will do nothing to improve the traffic flow, but will instead exacerbate both the gridlock and the smog as we idle in stop and go traffic (mostly stop) for the next 40 years.

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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