

Online Comment by User: Shawna

Submitted on: 10/31/2006 1:46:00 PM

Comment Category: Ecosystems

Comment Location: Chapter-2, Page-1

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Comment:

To Whom it May Concern:

I-0871-001

The 6-lane only and 6-lane with Pacific Interchange alternative for 520 expansion are not acceptable. For one, the EIS statement has failed to offer real solutions to support the increased traffic surrounding the floating bridge expansion. What will happen to traffic in the Montlake, Capitol Hill, University District, Madison Valley during construction for 7+ years? There is no viable plan in place for construction and post-construction for the surrounding infrastructure of this expansion.

Secondly, I am deeply concerned about the large amount of concrete that will be visible from all directions including the Arboretum and Union Bay Natural Area, both originally designed to be respites from city life and preserved areas for wildlife, youth and higher education. Noise will be at a higher volume and travel farther which will effect the quality of educational opportunities at this rich botanic garden. 5,000 + youth participate in education programs at the Arboretum. They are the future stewards of this place, what kind of example is it to leave them with a less than perfect bridge plan for their future? How is this in-line with the conservation and sustainable direction we are headed as a city and a state?

The UW Botanic Gardens is a gem in the state of Washington and I would hate to see anything short of sustainable, well-planned, long term transportation options being constructed in this valuable and fragile area. I support doing a feasibility study of the tunnel tube option so the public has something to compare to what's offered in the EIS.

I support encouraging more use of mass transit and less cars. Don't we have better options than this? Let's follow the examples of other successful cities and consider tunnels, light rail, trolley and other ways to get around instead of more cars and more concrete.

Thank you,

Concerned Citizen

I-0871-001

Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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