

Online Comment by User: Stephanie

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Comment Category: Pacific Street Interchange

Comment Location: Chapter-1, Page-1

Address: , , 98112

Comment:

WSDOT-

I-0895-001

I have read everything that I can on all of the proposals put before you. As a 12 year member of the Montlake community I can not believe the traffic change. I no longer shop at University Village except between 10-1PM. There are many days that the east bound On-ramp to 520 is still metered at 11:30 AM and on again by 2:30PM. Some days it is faster for me to use I-90 because I can't get on the bridge, and when I do it crawls. Where will traffic be in 20-30 years? The whole situation is no longer acceptable with a do nothing or nearly nothing (4-lane proposal) answer.

The Pacific Interchange is the only viable solution to help the local neighborhoods and traffic, both vehicular and transit. The University gains a great connection point to light rail. The local commuters don't have to wait to get through the cut. The U's opposition is perplexing. It is much easier to get through the Montlake Cut when it is summer vacation, not a game day or the University is on break...they bear some responsibility to the congestion! For the loss in parking, more people can commute to school or to sporting events on mass transit. They will be closer to the U's parking lots on Pacific than tying up 520E waiting to get off at Montlake Blvd. The University's opposition shouldn't have any bearing on this decision.

Everyone benefits from more green space and a design that works for all neighborhoods and commuters. Does a mega-structure in excess of 400 feet across belong cutting through any neighborhood? At least over Foster island the on-ramps are away from the bulk of the houses. Please imagine living in any of the communities near the University and Montlake and finding yourself missing your child's soccer game because it took you thirty minutes to get through the Cut at 2PM. Or wanting to live in our community but you work in Redmond. Would you live here if a twenty minute commute now routinely takes you over an hour?

The interchange at Montlake Blvd./520/Cut is unbearable now, and will be unusable by 2030. I would like to think that all people will use mass transit in the future as your plans so optimistically show, but there will always be us Mom's who can't take their kid to their dance or soccer practice on light-rail...

Please make the right decision by approving the Pacific Interchange option and let both sides of the Cut start moving again!

Thank you,
Stephanie

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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