

**Online Comment by User: tilia**

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Comment Category: Ecosystems

Comment Location: Chapter-1, Page-1

Address: 8290 Icicle Road, Leavenworth, WA 98826

**Comment:**

Dear Sir,

**I-0926-001**

I moved to Seattle in 1991 to go to the UW in the U District. I was a student until 1996 and then I worked for WSDOT (first as a drafter, then in the env/biology department) for 3 years before moving to Leavenworth in 2000. At the UW I majored in Wildlife Science, which is a part of the College of Forest Resources. This curriculum includes quite a bit about tree and forest health, and we had several field trips to the Arboretum. In addition, while I was a student, I took advantage of the canoe rentals to cruise around the area where a widened highway and new overpasses are proposed.

I am opposed to any plans that would widen the highway into the Arboretum, and I don't like the idea of the new flying overpass that is rooted on the island. Like I'm sure many people will point out, this is an island of nature in a vast sea of concrete and asphalt. The arboretum is unique in many ways: it provides a nearby source of nature for "nature" students, a source of relaxation for harried Seattlites (and stressed out students), a source of oxygen in a large CO2 producing city, a place to walk your dog, watch birds, regulate the temperature locally, provide much needed wildlife habitat, etc etc.

I lived and drove in Seattle from 1991 to 2000, and as much trouble as it can be to use SR 520 and the exit to the U District/Montlake, I kind of like it. It's so congested that only people that really need to go there, go there. If I really need to go shopping in the U Village, I'll brave the exit and do it, even now. I still make the trip over Stevens Pass many times a year to go shopping (mostly on weekends I'll admit), and do most of my shopping in the U District, and I am not daunted by current traffic conditions.

I just found out about this project and the comment period that ends today through a like on Yahoo News today, so I'm sorry I can't be more specific. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Janet Millard

**I-0926-001**

**Comment Summary:**

Arboretum (Concerns)

**Response:**

See Section 9.3 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.