



Monday, October 30, 2006

Paul Krueger  
Environmental Manager  
SR 520 Project Office  
414 Olive Way, Suite 400  
Seattle, WA 98101

Attn: Paul Krueger, Environmental Manager

RE: Comments on the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project

Dear Paul,

L-017-001

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Port of Seattle, which operates the Seattle Seaport and the Sea-Tac International Airport, supports regional transportation projects which help move people and goods efficiently throughout the region. The Port's major interest in the SR 520 project is that freight movement, including trucks with hazardous and flammable loads, are not compromised or restricted on the new facility. The current Port understanding is that hazardous and flammable loads will be allowed with all SR 520 options, including any tunnel or lidded sections of the roadway. The Port would like to see the DEIS address the issue of hazardous and flammable loads and affirm that they will be accommodated.

L-017-002

Interstate 90, not SR 520, is the major east/west freight route between Seattle and the East Side. However, many trucks do use SR 520 to distribute goods and services and that will likely increase in the future. The Port would like to see freight addressed in the SR 520 DEIS in a similar way that other modes were addressed, including bus transit, light rail, bicycle and pedestrian traffic and parking. The DEIS should address specific issues important to freight movement including roadway grades (as low as possible), and vertical heights as high as possible for overhead structures (18' for oversize loads). The Port believes that freight movement should be a major element of major roadway environmental reviews because it is such an important element to the region's economic success.

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L-017-001

**Comment Summary:**

Freight

**Response:**

See Section 5.4 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

L-017-002

**Comment Summary:**

Freight

**Response:**

See Section 5.4 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

*Mr. Paul Krueger*

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**L-017-002**

WSDOT is currently planning the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations Project and that project has considered restrictions of hazardous and flammable loads through Seattle and Mercer Island tunnels on I-90. There currently are no restrictions on I-90 and the Port would encourage WSDOT to look at the freight system holistically and not redirect freight traffic.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Project DEIS. The Port supports this work and strongly encourages WSDOT to adopt a preferred alternative that accommodates freight movements along with other modes of transportation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 206-728-3832 or Project Planner Dan Burke at 206-728-3376.

Sincerely,



John Okamoto  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Port of Seattle