

I-0005-001

Online Comment by User: aday481

Submitted on: 10/31/2006 11:59:00 PM

Comment Category: Comment on all alternatives

Comment Location: Chapter-1, Page-1

Address: , , 98115

Comment:

The designs I have seen in the EIS do not seem to account for a key impediment to traffic flow, which reduces the carrying capacity of the existing roadway and would impact the capacity of any future bridge system. That is the effect of elevation changes. In particular, as drivers go eastbound and rise to the crest of the hill near Evergreen Point, there is typically the greatest slowdown. Uneven acceleration due to the elevation change is the likely cause. The effects ripple back across the entire bridge, sometimes all the way to I5. A similar effect occurs as westbound traffic approaches the same point. If the elevation change were reduced, for example by cutting deeper into the hill, even four lanes could potentially carry considerably more vehicles than the existing bridge and road.

I have read in other summaries that the bridge levels over Union Bay or Portage Bay could also be quite high. If so then even six lanes may not provide congestion relief.

I-0005-001

Comment Summary:

Freeway Operations (I-5 Area)

Response:

See Section 5.2 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.