

Online Comment by User: Craig Thompson

Submitted on: 10/31/2006 10:37:00 AM

Comment Category: Comments on Construction Effects

Comment Location: Chapter-10, Page-1

Address: 1311 13th Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98144

I-0114-001

Comment:

Construction will disrupt wildlife habitat along Marsh Island and nearby Foster Island, plus have negative impacts to pedestrian and bicycle usage through the Arboretum. Instead of opening the Arboretum up for more development, it should be restricted.

Comment Category: Comment on all alternatives

Comment Location: Chapter-7, Page-1

I-0114-002

Comment:

Expanding 520 to six lanes will only mean more traffic and less emphasis on public transportation: it would encourage only more single-occupancy vehicles at a cost not only to the immediate environment, but also further contribute to global warming at a time when it needs to be addressed by government agencies. Expanding 520 to six lanes reflects the thinking of the 1950s, when more lanes were built, with the assumption that cars would be the solution to public mobility forever, and the impact of highway expansion was ignored for a perceived continual benefit that has proven elusive. Instead of creating more opportunity to use vehicles, we should be trying to decrease the use of vehicles, through tax incentives for businesses to encourage telecommuting and to hire locally instead of demanding commuting at all.

Comment Category: Ecosystems

Comment Location: Chapter-8, Page-1

I-0114-003

Comment:

Expanding the 520 highway through the Arboretum to six lanes should not be considered, because of the environmental impact to Marsh Island to the north and the Arboretum itself to the south. The environmental cost to disrupting the wetlands along Marsh Island would include loss of habitat for water fowl, small mammals, reptiles, and other species that have become increasingly rare in Lake Washington due to the level of development along its shores. This is one of the last spots that allows these species a chance at survival in our heavily urbanized setting, and one of the few spots that allows the public peace of mind in our city: it's just not worth the trade.

I-0114-001

Comment Summary:

Arboretum (Concerns)

Response:

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

I-0114-002

Comment Summary:

6-Lane Alternative

Response:

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

I-0114-003

Comment Summary:

Arboretum (Concerns)

Response:

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