

I-0125-001

Comment Summary:

6-Lane Alternative

Response:

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

Online Comment by User: Dave & Ann Wahl

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Comment Category: General Comments

Comment Location: Chapter-3, Page-19

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Comment:

Hello,

I-0125-001

My name is Ann Wahl. I was born in Bellevue and have lived 40 of my 45 years in East King County. My husband and I and 3 children live in Redmond and my husband and I work in Kirkland.

As someone who has used the "floating bridge" for many, many years, I strongly support a 6 lane bridge w/commuter and bike lanes. I am also in favor of concrete walls and lids to contain noise and have less of an effect on the residents of this area. We know that the financial costs are high for this type of bridge but as taxpayers we believe this type of bridge is needed for this area. The cost may be high now but they keep growing year by year. This project has been "overstudied" and delayed time and time again. The costs keep growing year by year. We believe the government needs to take a stand and build the bridge now for safety and traffic reasons and need not let special interest groups keep delaying the project as it becomes more and more expensive each year!

From a safety standpoint I have personally driven the bridge on windy days and have felt the waving and shaking on the elevated portion of the bridge going Eastbound. I have also been going 50 mile an hour and had waves of water from high winds hit my windshield. These are both safety hazards. If this bridge is not rebuilt I do believe that serious damage could be sustained and it could result in a major shut down of the bridge and dramatically effect the people and businesses of this area. Having felt the wind I also worry that the bridge could acutally "break in parts" as commuters are traveling across in those high winds.

Traffic wise, congestion keeps getting worse and worse. When there is an accident of the bridge there are maor shutdowns that sometimes take hours to clear up. This situation will only get worse and worse as the population of our area increases.

As I drive across the I-90 bridge, (which I often take to get to and from Seattle though it is usually out of my way because I know that the timing is more "predictable") I notice what a nice, seemingly safe bridge it is. I notice how well the traffice flows and I smile as I see the bike riders and walkers travel their lanes. I really appreciate having that bridge. I am sure that people complained beforehand about the impact and cost before that was built but you do not hear anyone complaining about it now.

Please move forward and building a safe and reliable, new 6 lane 520 bridge w/bike and pedestrian lanes. Please start building now!

Thank you for allowing us to express our thoughts and ideas.

Dave & Ann Wahl
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