

**Online Comment by User: devra**

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Comment Category: General Comments

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**Comment:**

We live in the Montlake area (on East Hamlin Street west of Montlake Boulevard) and are directly affected by decisions related to 520. Unlike many of our neighbors, we strongly oppose the Pacific Interchange option for replacement of 520. We oppose the Pacific Interchange for a number of reasons.

First, the environmental impact to the Arboretum, and Foster and Marsh islands, is unacceptable. The footprint over the islands will dramatically increase negatively impacting the habitat areas and the marsh lands, but also destroying the trails that are used by so many people. Additionally, it will force more car traffic to back up on Lake Washington through the Arboretum, which will create similar negative impacts.

Second, the Pacific Interchange will destroy wonderful views from East Montlake Park, Husky Stadium, MOHAI, and the Montlake Bridge.

Third, the Pacific Interchange option will ruin the character of Husky Stadium by putting a large freeway on-ramp over the top of the South parking lot.

Fourth, it will not markedly improve traffic. If the Pacific Interchange option would solve or greatly improve traffic issues in Montlake and the surrounding areas, it would be worthy of more consideration despite all the negative impacts.

Finally, it is far and away the most expensive of the options.

All the Pacific Interchange option serves to do is push traffic to a different area, all the while destroying many of the wonderful features of this neighborhood and at the highest cost to the environment. It is wholly unacceptable, and we strongly urge the Department of Transportation to pursue a different option, preferably the 4-Lane Alternative.

I-0140-001

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**Comment Summary:**

Pacific Street Interchange Option

**Response:**

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