

I-0166-001

Online Comment by User: dwales

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Comment Category: General Comments

Comment Location: Chapter-1, Page-1

Address: , , 98074

Comment:

I very much support the Pacific Interchange Plan for SR 520. As a frequent traveler across 520 for the last 32 years, I am completely frustrated by the escalating traffic situation. It's gotten to the point now that I will avoid traveling across the lake altogether due to the huge traffic delays caused by the current bridge configuration.

The Pacific Interchange Plan is the best solution we have to finally address this situation. Among other things, the Plan will provide the following benefits and remedies:

- No more backups between University Village to Montlake. Finally, a solution to the "Montlake mess"! Pacific Interchange dramatically improves local traffic circulation on arterials in Seattle. Compared with the other options for SR 520, Pacific Interchange does not differ substantially in the number of vehicles coming into any Seattle neighborhoods.
- A continuous green belt reconnecting the playfield on Portage Bay to the Arboretum - a great new park for the whole city!
- A direct transit connection between express bus service on SR 520 (which will quadruple to 47,000+ riders/day by 2030) and the planned Sound Transit light rail station at UW, which will be the most heavily used stop outside downtown Seattle (about 21,000 boardings/day.)
- A direct bicycle link from the Burke-Gilman trail to the Eastside.

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Comment Summary:

Pacific Street Interchange Option

Response:

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