

From: Mary Ellen Hunter [mailto:maryellenhunter@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2010 8:34 AM
To: SR 520 Bridge SDEIS
Subject: 520 bridge

Dear Ms. Young:

Thank you for this opportunity to express a thought that comes to mind each time I cross the 520 bridge.

How nice would it be if there was a spur that would link up with Madison at the edge of Lake Washington. Think of how that would ease the traffic congestion through the Montlake area and ultimately I-5.

I don't know if this idea has been discussed previously and ruled out for some reason. It would be expensive, but very helpful in eliminating congestion.

Thanks for reading!

Best,

Mary Ellen Hunter

I-035-001

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The concept of creating a new connection between SR 520 and East Madison Street is not part of the SR 520, I-5 to Medina project. As described in Chapter 1 of the SDEIS and in the Range of Alternatives and Options Evaluated Report (Attachment 8 to the SDEIS), an extensive range of alternatives has been evaluated for this project. Alternative corridors, technologies (e.g. tubes and tunnels), and travel modes, as well as many design variations within the existing corridor, were evaluated as part of the Trans-Lake Washington Study and again after the initiation of NEPA review in 2000. Chapter 2 of the Final EIS provides additional information on how alternatives were developed and evaluated, and why some solutions were determined not to be reasonable alternatives. When evaluating the suite of solutions developed for the SR 520 corridor, the analysts had to consider land use and transportation systems, effects to the built and natural environment, and reliability and safety of the system. In seeking that balance, the Translake Study Committee determined that providing new connections in new locations where there were none did not provide sufficient benefits to justify the overall effects.