

SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program

I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project



Supplemental Draft EIS Environmental Hearing Comment Form – Feb. 23, 2010

Welcome to the environmental hearing for the SR 520, I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please use this form to share your comments on the content provided in the Supplemental Draft EIS document. WSDOT will consider all comments received between Jan. 22 and April 15, 2010 in making its final decision in the environmental review process. Thank you for your comments.

You can provide comments through one of the following methods:

- **Complete this form** and place it in one of the comment boxes during the meeting. Please write clearly.
- **Mail** your comments to Jenifer Young, SR 520, I-5 to Medina Environmental Manager, Washington State Department of Transportation, 600 Stewart Street, Suite 520, Seattle, WA 98101.
- **E-mail** your comments to SR520Bridge_SDEIS@wsdot.wa.gov.
- **Visit the Web page** at www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520Bridge.

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These comments will become part of the public record for the SR 520, I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Personal information is voluntary and will become part of the public record if provided. The Washington State Department of Transportation is a public agency and is subject to the State of Washington's Public Records Act (RCW 42.56). Therefore, meeting comments may be made available to anyone requesting them for non-commercial purposes.

Do you have any comments on the Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement?

I-050-001

The current proposal will be the replication of barrier the Alaska Way Viaduct has imposed on the city. The height of the bridge should not exceed 10' feet in height at any

I-050-002

point along the lake. Noise should be abated by using noise abating surface. A sound wall will be permanent

I-050-003

aesthetics can destroy the beauty of Lake Washington.

I-050-001

Since publication of the SDEIS, WSDOT has developed a Preferred Alternative with a floating bridge deck that addresses community concerns with while providing for bridge maintenance needs. The height of the floating bridge with the Preferred Alternative would be approximately 20 feet above the water. It would be approximately 10 feet higher than the existing bridge, and approximately 5 to 10 feet lower than previous designs considered in the DEIS and the SDEIS.

I-050-002

The Preferred Alternative includes several noise reduction strategies, such as 4-foot concrete traffic barriers with noise-absorptive coating, reducing the speed limit through the Portage Bay area to 45 mph, encapsulating expansion joints, and using noise-absorptive materials around the Montlake and 10th Avenue East/Delmar Drive East lid portals. WSDOT will continue to consider other noise reduction methods as design development progresses.

Quieter concrete pavement is included as a design feature for Option A, Option K, and the Preferred Alternative; however, because it is not an FHWA-approved mitigation measure and because future pavement surface conditions cannot be determined with certainty, it is not included in the noise model for the project.

The noise reduction strategies included in the Preferred Alternative would reduce noise levels along the corridor to the point that noise walls are not recommended in the Seattle portion of the project area, except potentially along I-5 in the North Capitol Hill area where the reasonableness and feasibility of a noise wall is still be evaluated. Noise walls are still recommended for areas in Medina; however, installation and locations of noise walls would be decided with input from the community. Information on noise modeling results for the Preferred Alternative can be found in the Noise Discipline Report Addendum (Attachment 7 to the Final EIS) and in Section 5.7 of the Final EIS.

