

## 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](http://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?

IN GENERAL ADDING MORE LANES HAS ALWAYS  
PROVED TO NOT ONLY NOT HELP BUT MAKE TRAFFIC  
WORSE. WE HUMANS SIMPLY WILL ALWAYS DO THE  
EASY THING JUMP INTO THE CAR AND DRIVE UNLESS  
YOU FORCE THEM TO DO OTHERWISE. UNLESS WE  
STOP BOWING DOWN TO # AND PUBLIC OPINION

### I-058-001

The SR 520, I-5 to Medina project would complete the HOV lane system in the corridor, improving reliability and efficiency for transit and carpools, but would not add general-purpose lanes. Thus, the project is aligned with improving the overall efficiency of the transportation system by creating incentives for people to choose an alternative to driving alone. The SR 520, I-5 to Medina project would result in immediate benefits for transit speed and reliability in the corridor by providing high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes across the floating bridge and better HOV connections at the Montlake and I-5 interchanges (see Section 5.1 of the SDEIS and Final EIS). The HOV lanes would allow for the near-term implementation of bus rapid transit, as called for in the SR 520 High-Capacity Transit Plan. Section 2.4 of the Final EIS provides further discussion of how the project can accommodate high capacity transit. The proposed corridor is six lanes wide, not nine as characterized by the comment. Standard engineering terminology includes only through lanes, not ramps or shoulders, in describing the number of lanes in a facility. Section 2.2 of the Final EIS explains when and why an 8-lane alternative was dropped from further evaluation. The Preferred Alternative has been designed to minimize SR 520's footprint as much as possible while allowing room for HOV lanes and the shoulders required to satisfy current safety standards regulated by FHWA and the Association of American State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Further, the Preferred Alternative includes a managed shoulder rather than an auxiliary lane on the Portage Bay Bridge. See Chapter 2 for a description of the Preferred Alternative.

I-058-001

Do you have any comments on the Bridge Replacement and HOV Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement? (continued from page 1)

I-058-001

AND START REALIZING THAT CAR CULTURES ESPECIALLY  
IN MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS DON'T WORK.  
WE ARE GOING FROM A 4 LANE FOOTPRINT TO A  
9 LANE PLUS NEW SAFETY RECS FOOTPRINT. THIS IS  
UNEXCEPTABLE. WE HAVE BECOME VERY LAZY, VERY  
SELFISH, VERY STUPID IN HOW WE TREAT LIFE ON THIS  
PLANET AND ULTIMATELY WITHOUT A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT  
WE DON'T HAVE US OR ANYTHING ELSE FOR THAT MATTER  
I BELIEVE WE NEED TO CONSIDER MUCH MORE ON  
MASS TRANSIT. I KNOW IT'S TOO LATE TO COMPLETELY  
RECONSIDER BUT I BELIEVE IN EDUCATING, GIVING  
PEOPLE (HOPEFULLY) SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT MAYBE  
EVEN IMPOSE A LITTLE GUILT. IF SOMEONE REALLY  
WANTS TO BE A LEADER STOP!!! FOLLOWING THE  
NORM - THE CURRENT AND LONGTIME HUMAN FLOW  
OF BIGGER - FASTER - LONG DISTANCE COMMUTES.  
I'LL STOP PANTING

TU.