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AWWSP Team Office

9688 Rainier Avenue S.
Seattle, WA 98118

May 28th, 2004

Ms. Allison Ray
Washington State DOT
999 3rd Avenue, Suite 2424
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: **Alaskan Way Viaduct & Sea-Wall Replacement Project**
DEIS Comments

Dear Ms. Ray:

As a frequent driver on the *Alaskan Way Viaduct* and being personally impacted by all claustrophobic driving environments, and also being aware that many other drivers are likewise handicapped, I wish to take this opportunity to express my fervent hope that WSDOT and its companion participating agencies will reject any option that includes a new tunnel or a portion of a tunnel for the proposed new SR 99 viaduct.

Ignoring obvious cost impacts associated with any tunnel option, especially recognizing the appalling cost over-runs of Boston's *Big Dig*, and noting that any tunnel option will deprive me and other citizens of access to air and light, while increasing the driving hazard, you should only consider those options that will allow for our continued driving safety, efficiency, pleasure and ease as well as affording the required necessary future increases in capacity.

I must remind the Department and participating agencies that you do not enjoy an unfettered right to inflict driving problems or related tunnel hazards on me or any other citizen for that matter. Given less expensive alternatives, involving both capital costs and long term maintenance costs, a tunnel option is not the appropriate choice.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Yours sincerely,



Margaret M. Brown, M.A.

I-092-001

FHWA, WSDOT, and the City of Seattle appreciate receiving your comments. Any tunnels that are constructed for this project will contain a fire suppression system and be built to the current safety standards. The lead agencies have considered the analysis of all alternatives carefully when choosing the preferred alternative.

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