

**From:** [Van Brinkerhoff](#)  
**To:** [AWV SDEIS Comments](#);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Concerning the Viaduct  
**Date:** Saturday, September 23, 2006 6:40:54 AM  
**Attachments:**

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I have three comments.

- I-557-001** | First, the comment period needs to be extended now that Nickels has 'dictated' the tunnel to the constituency.
- I-557-002** | Second, Most users of the viaduct don't live in that part of the city. We pay city taxes, but live in Magnolia or West Seattle or parts east. Commuting to an appointment is the only time we get to enjoy the fantastic view from the viaduct. As taxpayers, we should get a proportionate vote in whether the view stays or goes underground. The relatively few condo viewers who will benefit from the destruction of the viaduct do not pay taxes in proportion to the destruction they request. If they want a tunnel, let them build it themselves.
- I-557-003** | Thirdly, Seattle residents already pay some of the highest property taxes in the country. It's time our elected management figured out how to run the city without add-on taxes. Just fix the viaduct.

Thanks for your consideration.

**Van Brinkerhoff and Natalie Williams**

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### **I-557-001**

The comment period exceeded the time required by NEPA and SEPA regulations and was not extended.

### **I-557-002**

FHWA, WSDOT, and the City of Seattle appreciate receiving your comments and recognize your objections to a tunnel alternative.

The views of Elliott Bay, Puget Sound, and the Olympic Mountains are prized by many. Views are currently enjoyed by motorists and passengers traveling on the upper deck of the existing viaduct. However, the views for motorists and pedestrians using downtown streets in the vicinity of the waterfront are interrupted by the existing viaduct structure. This structure is considered by some to be a substantial visual intrusion as well as a source of noise and shadow for the Pioneer Square Historic District and the Central Waterfront. Impacts to views are discussed in the Final EIS and considered in detail in Appendix D, Visual Quality Discipline Report.

### **I-557-003**

The lead agencies are endeavoring to complete the project in as cost-effective a manner as possible. Project funding is discussed in the Summary chapter of the Final EIS.