

**From:** [Casey Hanewall](#)  
**To:** [AWV SDEIS Comments](#);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Comment on North of Battery Street Tunnel Street Improvements  
**Date:** Friday, July 28, 2006 11:33:42 AM  
**Attachments:**

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**I-599-001** | The Alaska Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement shows two dramatic street realignment alternatives north of the battery street tunnel (pages 51 and 52). These street realignments all directly impact the current Seattle Center surface parking lot bounded by Mercer, Broad and Fifth, and all call for building out Sixth Avenue. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has purchased this property for constructing its new global headquarters, which should be a significant architectural addition to the Seattle Center area.

The two DEIS street improvements seem to be unfeasible, considering that building out Sixth Avenue would cut this property in half, making construction of the new Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation headquarters impossible. Neither WSDOT alternative is feasible with the planned construction, and certainly a realigned street network is not preferable to the addition of this significant building. WSDOT therefore should therefore maintain the current street grid in this area.

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### **I-599-001**

The 2010 Supplemental Draft EIS and the Final EIS have considered the Gates Foundation site that is scheduled to open in the Spring of 2011. The lead agencies have been coordinating with the Gates Foundation and the alignment of Sixth Avenue N. with the preferred Bored Tunnel Alternative, curves around the west side of this property.