

PORTLAND SWAP MEET COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 1395
Wilsonville, OR 97070-1395

June 16, 2008

Columbia River Crossing
c/o Heather Gunderson Environmental Manager
700 Washington Street, Suite 300
Vancouver, WA 98660

RECEIVED

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Columbia River Crossing

Subject: Marine Drive Interchange / Portland Expo Center
Ref: DEIS – Ch. 2, Pg. 26

Dear MS. Gunderson, CRC Project Staff and CRC Task Force Members:

B-060-001 My name is David Van Winkle and I am Chairman of the Portland Swap Meet Committee. The annual Portland Swap Meet is one of over 100 events that will be directly impacted by the proposed Diagonal and Southern Alignment options being considered for the Marine Drive Interchange.

For the past 38 years the Portland Swap Meet Committee has held their first weekend in April event at the Expo center. During this event, we utilize all the buildings as well as the entire parking lot - including the TriMet Park and Ride spaces. We provide space for 4,200 vendor booths during our 3-day event and will attract in excess of 25,500 potential customers. This considerable task is performed by the 120 Portland Swap Meet Committee members and approximately 300 volunteers representing the six car collector clubs, which are the basis for the committee.

Our event has a significant impact on the local community. Motels, restaurants, Portland International Raceway, Portland Meadows and transportation services provide the support required for our 10,000 attendees. If significant changes in the access to Expo result in our not being able to use the facility, local businesses would experience a significant decline in revenue. In addition, the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission would not receive full value from its investment in Expo.

B-060-002 The Portland Swap Meet Committee **strongly opposes the Diagonal and Southern Alignment** proposals. Loss of building space, elimination of parking lot space, restricted access to both the site and the buildings for vendors, and significant changes to current traffic patterns would result in our no longer being able to use Expo for our event. We do **support the Standard / Current Interchange** option or any other option that does not have a significant site or access impact on Expo.

Again, let me emphasize our support for the **Standard / Current** Interchange option. This option will preserve the integrity of the Expo Center, the economic health of many local businesses and the connectivity that is vital to all events. We trust you will consider the needs of those who rent the Expo center and vote against any proposal that negatively impacts that site.

Sincerely,



David Van Winkle
Chairman, Portland Swap Meet Committee

Cc: Chris Bailey, Director - Portland Expo Center

B-060-001

Following the publication of the DEIS in May 2008, and the selection of the LPA in July 2008, the CRC project team established a Stakeholder Group to provide feedback on the function and design of the Marine Drive interchange. This advisory group was comprised of a wide range of stakeholders with strong interests in the final design of this interchange including Metro; TriMet; the Oregon Department of Transportation; the City of Portland; the Port of Portland; trucking and distributions companies; the Audubon Society; nearby property owners or operators, such as Diversified Marine and the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission; as well as community members from the surrounding Bridgeton, Kenton, and East Columbia Neighborhoods.

As discussed in Chapter 2 (Section 2.7) of the FEIS, working with this advisory group, the CRC project team conducted studies that analyzed the traffic operations, property impacts, and potential environmental effects for a range of potential interchange designs. The Marine Drive interchange design included in the LPA that is analyzed in the FEIS was developed with this stakeholder advisory group to balance many competing interests, including freight mobility, property impacts to nearby properties, and environmental impacts. More detailed information regarding this process and its outcome is available in the Marine Drive Interchange Alignment Recommendation Process: Final Summary Report and Stakeholder Recommendation, available online in the project's electronic library at www.columbiarivercrossing.org or by contacting the project office.

B-060-002

Please see response to comment B-060-001.