

June 14, 2006

To: Columbia River Crossing Citizens Advisory Committee:

The Columbia River Crossing Citizens Advisory Committee has been given a mandate to find solutions to move people and freight across the Columbia River. This panel could look at other comparable areas of North America where transportation issues are met with success. Last month I mentioned to the Committee that Calgary, Alberta has solved transportation issues similar to the Columbia River region.

Another great example of good transportation planning is Vancouver, British Columbia. In the last fifteen years Vancouver's population increased 33% to an estimated 2.5 million. Vancouver, B.C. is solving their transportation needs by approaching transportation as one problem. In 1999 TransLink was formed to manage public transportation, regional, suburban and urban roads. In this manner, transportation for people and freight is planned in a non-competitive everyone wins solution.

Part of the transportation solution in Vancouver BC is a subway called SkyTrain which passenger fares pay 100% of its operation.

Another part of the Vancouver transportation solution is commuter rail.

Vancouver's TransLink gets support from all the citizens because good transportation benefits everyone

In the present system for the Columbia River Region each mode of transportation is competing against other modes. Long range transportation planning and efficiency suffers.

I recommend Columbia River Crossing Citizens Advisory Committee consult with TransLink CEO Pat Jacobsen for some sound advice to save time and money.

David L. Rowe
8817 NE 275th St
Battle Ground, WA 98604
360-687-9178
E-mail: DLRowe3162@aol.com

Interim First Phase of the Columbia River Crossing Project ??

- Extend MAX Yellow Line to Hayden Island (Elevated station at PUC site)
- Provide bike/ped lane on new MAX bridge over Portland Harbor
- TriMet provides Hayden Island feeder bus service to MAX Station
- Relocate C-Tran Transit Center to the Hayden Island MAX Station
- Allow C-Tran and emergency vehicles exclusive use of Hayden Island northbound I-5 on-ramp.
- Convert bike/ped lane on existing Portland Harbor Bridge to an additional northbound travel lane
- Discontinue #6 MLK bus service to Hayden Island and Vancouver

Jim Howell 6-14-06
503 284-7182
jimhowell89@hotmail.com

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