

Draft EIS Comment Guide

Public Comment Period: May 2, 2008 to July 1, 2008

The Columbia River Crossing (CRC) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) describes potential effects on the surrounding neighborhoods and environment, flow of local and highway traffic, improvements to transit, bicycling and walking and options for project financing.

The Draft EIS and public comment period are required by the federal government to ensure that people affected by the project have an opportunity to learn about and comment on the proposal before a decision is made. Your comments will be considered and responded to in preparing the Final EIS.

Why comment?

- To ensure the alternatives and effects analyzed are complete and accurate
- To help select an alternative that solves transportation problems and meets the community's needs
- To inform local decision-makers on public opinion
- To shape the *Locally Preferred Alternative* and measures taken to minimize impacts

The *Locally Preferred Alternative* is the alternative selected by local decision-makers as the preferred solution to the project's identified needs. This selection will focus on three choices: a bridge type (replacement or supplemental), transit mode (bus rapid transit or light rail) and a transit alignment.

Comment Period

The CRC Draft EIS public comment period extends until July 1, 2008. Comments are accepted at any time during the comment period. Public hearings focused on hearing public feedback will be held:

- Wednesday, May 28, 2008
Open House: 5–8 P.M., Public Hearing: 6–8 P.M.
Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay
100 Columbia Street, Vancouver, WA
- Thursday, May 29, 2008
Open House: 5–8 P.M., Public Hearing: 6–8 P.M.
Portland Metropolitan Exposition Center
2060 North Marine Drive, Portland, OR

How can I comment?

Written comments can be submitted by:

Online form: www.columbiarivercrossing.org

E-mail: DraftEISfeedback@columbiarivercrossing.org

Mail: 700 Washington Street, Suite 300
Vancouver, WA 98660

Fax: 360-737-0294

Questions can be directed to the above e-mail, mail or fax contacts or by:

Phone: 360-737-2726 or 503-256-2726

TTY: 7-1-1

Examples of Draft EIS Comments

Example #1

Tell who you are/why you are interested

I am a supporter of the Historic Reserve. In the Draft EIS, I notice interchange design options for SR 14.

Given the likely impacts to the Reserve, I prefer an interchange design which could leave land to replace land lost to the expansion of the freeway.

Identify project details that you like and/or dislike

Example #2

Suggest ways to address your concern

I am a resident of the Blaney Park neighborhood. I support transit that connects to other systems easily. I am interested in station comfort. I would like to see design amenities included which protect riders from the elements.

I think pedestrian and bicycle amenities at stations are very important. In particular, enough bicycle parking in good visible locations should be provided.

Provide opinions or preferences on specific impacts and, where possible, use examples or data

How will my comment be processed?

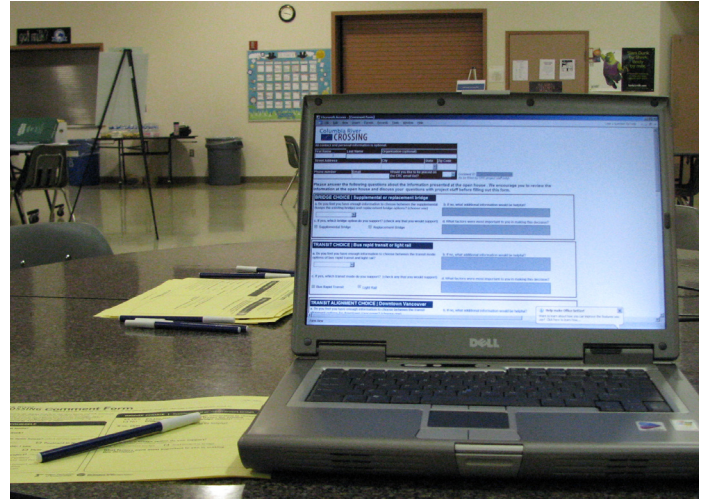
Comments received during the public comment period will be considered and responded to in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Similar comments may be grouped and summarized when included in the Final EIS. The Final EIS is expected to be published in 2009.

To provide feedback to local decision-makers, comments will be summarized during the public comment period into a report for local decision-makers to consider in endorsing an alternative as the Locally Preferred Alternative. The local decision-makers are:

- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
- Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC)
- Metro
- C-TRAN
- TriMet
- City of Vancouver
- City of Portland

How will I know that my comment was received?

When you comment by e-mail, mail or fax, you will receive an e-mail, postcard or fax to acknowledge your comment within 2 weeks. Comments directly delivered to CRC staff or court reporter at a public hearing or presentation will not receive an e-mail, postcard or fax acknowledging receipt.



Your comment will be considered and responded to in the Final EIS. Comments may be grouped with like comments and may be condensed for clarity.

How can I get involved?

- Visit the website at www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org to sign up for updates
- Attend an advisory group meeting
- Invite CRC staff to your group to discuss the project

Project Contact Information

E-mail: DraftEISfeedback@columbiarivercrossing.org

Mail: 700 Washington Street, Suite 300
Vancouver, WA 98660

Phone: 360-737-2726 or 503-256-2726

Fax: 360-737-0294

May 8, 2008

This comment guide was created in conjunction with the Community and Environmental Justice Group. To achieve the goal of meaningful public involvement in the project, the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project formed the Community and Environmental Justice Group.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION Materials can be provided in alternative formats: large print, Braille, cassette tape, or on computer disk for people with disabilities by calling the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) at (360) 705-7097. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact OEO through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1.

TITLE VI NOTICE TO PUBLIC It is the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin and sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. For language interpretation services, please contact the project office at (866) 396-2726. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact OEO's Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7098.