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Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 10:24:42 AM PDT

Subject: OR-WA I-5 Committee: Amendments to I-5 Foundational Principles

Senator Bentz,

Thank you for voicing clarification to the purpose of the Joint I-5 Bridge Committee at the October 25th meeting in Vancouver.

May I suggest that the first Foundational Principle be changed to:

-Discuss the replacement of, or additions within the metropolitan area to, the existing I-5 and I-205 Interstate Bridges."

Add bullet point:

-Discussions shall be aimed at resolving traffic congestion issues within the metropolitan region.

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Metropolitan region includes Multnomah and Washington Counties in Oregon; and Clark County in Washington state.

I think this clarifies that the purpose should be:

(1) Discussion is based upon the assumption that I-

5 bridge is not totally adequate. It limits discussion of alternatives to a specific area; so that the committee doesn't have to look at far flung proposals.

(2) It gives importance to the goal of solving or reducing traffic congestion.

One other note: Some people propose a tunnel under the Columbia. Seattle Tunnel Partners had voiced to me that their estimated cost for this would be \$5 billion. On the Oregon side, a tunnel could emerge in very marshy land. I don't think this option should be considered.

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