

Joint Oregon-Washington Legislature Action Committee

October 27, 2021

I have been listening to the IBR Program sessions since the beginning. I hear the public and legislature members asking an important question. How much commute time will be saved after the IBR designed bridge is built? The answer seems to be only a few minutes will be saved by most commuters after the bridge is built, costing \$4 billion.

Two transit options are included in the IBR studies. The only transit options presented are light rail transit and bus transit. Light Rail from Expo Center to Portland currently take 24 minutes. When Light Rail is extended to Vancouver, it will add another 10 minutes to the commute time. C-TRAN buses 105 and 134 currently travel from Vancouver to Portland in 23 to 30 minutes. Regional Passenger Rail has not been included in the IBR scope of study. The Amtrak/Cascades train corridor is only one mile from the I-5 corridor. This rail corridor takes passengers from Vancouver to downtown Portland in about 15 minutes. Regional Rail Passenger service must be studied by IBR program to improve the commute time for citizens.

Dave Rowe, Battle Ground commuter