

Three Regional Rail Corridors from Clark County to Portland

I-5 congestion could be lessened by developing regional electric passenger rail service on the existing rail lines from Clark County to Portland. Clark County is one of the fastest growing counties in Washington State. Climate change can be reduced by regional electric passenger rail development in Oregon and Washington. A bus goes about one mile on a fifth of a gallon of diesel, costing about 75 cents to move **40** passengers. The San Francisco BART passenger rail car uses about 3.5 Kilowatt/Hour per mile costing about 35 cents to move **150** passengers. Rail entrepreneur Henry Posner is testing the concept of battery powered rail cars in Rockhill, Pennsylvania. A fleet of 55 Stadler Battery Passenger Cars will be in service next year in Germany. Battery Powered Rail cars could be used in the Northwest to reduce greenhouse gases. Rail commuters would avoid tolls and by pass the congested Rose Quarter as currently proposed by the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program.

Regional Passenger Rail system with only 34 foot wide right of way can move as many passengers per hour as an eight lane freeway.

