

Submitter: Jim Howell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2098

HB 2098-3 is a step in the right direction but its top cost limit is well over double what is needed to meet the purpose and needs of this project.

A practical compromise would:

1. Retain the structurally sound Iconic Bridges for light rail, bikes, pedestrians and perhaps local Hayden Island traffic,
2. Construct an 8-lane mid-level I-5 Bridge with an opening span aligned with the existing Bridges.
3. Construct a Portland Channel Bridge for light rail. bikes and pedestrians
4. Retain all existing interchanges.

A compromise like this has never been studied, could probably be built for 2-3 billion dollars and not need to be tolled.

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