

Magnolia Bridge Replacement Project Speakers Bureau

Group/Organization: Seattle City Council's Transportation sub-committee
Date: December 17, 2002
Location: Municipal Building
Team Members: Kirk Jones, Lee Holloway, Teresa Platt; Brad Hoff
Attendance: Council members Conlin, Wills and McIver and eight members of the general public

Overview

Kirk Jones presented the Magnolia Bridge slideshow, describing the history of the bridge and the process developed to design a replacement facility. He described the nine surviving alternative alignments, described the project team's next steps, and answered questions from the group. The Commissioners asked that option B not be dropped from consideration.

Notes

Wills: So you've already had the December Open House?

Jones: Yes, it was on December 5th.

McIver: We looked at this [alignment B] during the first slide, the right-of-way is almost there.

Jones: Yes, it is close, but there are about 8 houses along the waterfront.

McIver: Trying to figure out access without a bridge, so it won't fall down.

Jones: Beside the legal challenges [with alignment B], there are environmental challenges as well.

Wills: [Alternate D] The dotted lines are ramps?

Jones: No, the ramps are in a heavy line, the dotted lines are potential surface roads.

Wills: Do we know who supported these alternatives, such as the Port?

Jones: Through the process with the community, 4 of them stood out – A, B, D, and H.

McIver: [Alternate I] Creating that structure along the side of the hill looks awfully expensive and longer.

Jones: No, it is about the same grade and length as the existing bridge.

Wills: Have you already selected your engineering firm?

Jones: Yes, HNTB is the lead and Enviroissues is part of the team.

Conlin: When would be the most productive time to return to brief the committee?

Jones: March or the end of February.

McIver: I have a question, why not spend the \$30 million to fix the old bridge?

Jones: Because you'd still end up with a 70 year-old road. Also our analysis shows that it is more cost effective to build a new bridge that meets seismic standards then repair and maintain the old bridge .

Wills: What is the expected life span of the bridge?

Jones: We will design for 100 years, the existing one is 70 years old.

McIver: The question is about money. We also want the Alaskan Way viaduct underground.

Conlin: I have heard lots of favorable comments from the public about the process.

Action Items

- ◆ Brief Council again in February or March.

Briefing Materials

- ◆ PowerPoint slide show presentation
- ◆ Aerial photograph