



City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Seattle Transportation

Seattle
Freight
Mobility
Advisory
Committee

October 11, 2007

Ronald J. Paananen, P. E.
Project Director

Peter Whitehead
Nelson Trucking
Co-Chair

Attention:

Kate Stenberg
Environmental Manager
Alaskan Way Viaduct Project
999 Third Ave, Suite 2424

Pat Binion
Alaska Distributors
Co-Chair

Washington State Department of Transportation

Warren Aakervik
Ballard Oil

RE: Alaskan Way Viaduct South Segment Environmental Assessment Scoping
Comments

Cliff Bates
V Van Dyke Trucking

Thank you for allowing the Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee consideration on making several comments about the Alaskan Way Viaduct. Alaskan Way, and in particular the Viaduct, are crucial to freight mobility in this region. The need to service industry in the north and provide a critical route to and from the south with the ability of not stopping too long on surface street traffic lights is a must. Below are several concerns/comments we have.

Greg Blaine
Continental Van Lines

Andrew Johnsen
BNSF Railroad

Ed Shilley
NUCOR Steel

Kim Suelzle
CityIce

Christine Wolf
Port of Seattle

1) Through capacity must be of the highest priority. We must design roads that work towards this goal.

2) Maintain an oversize or over dimensional load truck route along Alaskan way. This is a much needed and used route and must be kept viable.

3) Incorporate designs that consider what makes the best environmental choice. For example, trucks and cars climbing steep grades cause more emissions. Truck drivers prefer to avoid steep grades.

4) Business economic and operational impacts must be considered in the environmental assessment

5) Ferry traffic is also a concern that must be addressed.

6) Study the future impact of cars waiting in line for ferries or just stopped for streetlights that will be added to the vehicles already existing on Alaskan Way. What is the increase in traffic and associated environmental impacts, including worsening traffic conditions?

7) Provide ramp design for trucks to be able to merge and be user friendly to freight.

The Seattle Freight
Mobility Advisory
Committee advises
elected officials, SDOT
and other agencies on
measures to improve
freight mobility and safety
in Seattle.



8) All covered roadway and tunnel sections should not negatively impact the transport of hazardous materials, if possible.

Thank you again for your consideration, and please keep our Committee informed of the treatments for freight. This project is a high priority to this Committee and to the whole freight mobility community in this region.

If you have any questions on the Freight Committee's comments, please contact Peter Whitehead at 206 947 6180.

Sincerely,

Peter Russell Whitehead
Co-Chair

Pat Binion
Co-Chair

Cc:

Mayor Greg Nickels
Councilmember Jan Drago, Chair Council Transportation Committee
FMAC Members
Grace Crunican, SDOT
Robert Powers, SDOT
Ron Borowski, SDOT