

Magnolia Bridge Replacement Project Speakers Bureau

Group/Organization: Magnolia Community Club
Date: February 10, 2005; 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Location: Catherine Blaine Elementary School
Team Members: Kirk Jones, Brad Stein, Erin Pressentin

Overview

Kirk Jones gave an overview presentation of the project to the Magnolia Community Club highlighting replacement alternatives, cost and risk information, project timeline, and the possibility for bridge rehabilitation. Approximately 40 members of the public/club members attended, in addition to a Boy Scout Troop of approximately 25 members who listened in as part of a civics merit badge. Dan Burke, Port of Seattle, also briefly highlighted the Port's ongoing EIS process for North Bay development opportunities. Both fielded a question and answer period. Questions and comments ranged from replacement alternatives' ability to withstand a tsunami, to complimenting the Port and City for working together on the project.

Questions/Comments

- What is the difference in earthquake survivability between a replaced bridge and a rehabilitated bridge?
- Does the mayor favor removing the bridge altogether?
- How will the project be funded?
- The fact that the North Bay is a tsunami hazard zone should be considered in the Environmental Impact Statement.
- Do the Port's alternatives for development have significant traffic impacts? This information should be combined into both Environmental Impact Statements.
- Could fill soil be used to retain the bridge rather than drilling new piles? Would this design change alter associated costs?
- Is liquefaction an issue for a surface street?
- Does the Port have a preferred bridge alternative?
- Would additional traffic require additional bridge lanes if the Port develops the North Bay?
- If the Port built a second bridge to access its development, would the North-South surface road tie into it?
- How can the public track funds spent on the project to date? Can the public access a detailed accounting of all dollars spent and interest earned on the \$10 million?
- The City and Port should be complimented for their cooperation on these independent projects.
- Would emergency funds be available if the bridge was deemed unsafe tomorrow?