

To: IBR Community Comment: Hayden Island Public Comment
From: Sam Churchill, Hayden Island
Re: Hayden Island Residents Should Do Nothing
Date: May 14, 2021

As a Hayden Island resident for the last 8 years (without a car), I believe it's in the best interests of Hayden Island residents to do nothing about the Interstate Bridge Replacement.

Most of the I-5 Bridge Replacement costs will go to a default DOT plan, which HURTS the island and DOES NOT help congestion. The default plan will cut the island in half with an 12-18 lane viaduct, 45 feet above our heads.



Peter DeFazio believes the bridge project may self-destruct due to light rail differences between Oregon and Washington. Bus Rapid Transit may cause the project to lose federal funds. But Max would cause a high-rise real-estate boom on Hayden Island. Either way we lose.

If Washington State wants to kill IBR, let it. Plan "A" (with BRT) doesn't help congestion. Plan "B" (with Max) will increase real estate costs on the island. Neither plan helps us.

No benefit to a 3rd bridge, either. Real estate developers should go elsewhere (and be more forthright) if they want government subsidies.

Hayden Island residents may benefit more by simply living with the congestion for another 5 years. By then autonomy (and tunnels) will have a track record, for better or worse.

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