

SR 520 Update, July 2010

NCHNA continues its work against the State's current plan for SR 520. Why? Because, despite our efforts over the years, the State's currently "preferred alternative," not only fails to actually improve regional mobility, but also guarantees increased congestion, noise and risk to our health here in North Capitol Hill.

Fortunately, we are not alone in the fight. Our work goes on in concert with The Coalition for a Sustainable SR 520, comprising the community councils of Madison Park, Montlake, Laurelhurst, Roanoke Park/Portage Bay and the boating community, including the Queen City and Seattle Yacht Clubs.

Here is a brief report on the Coalition's recent efforts.

Financing: The Coalition has researched the State's suspiciously shaky prospects for actually financing its current SR 520 plan. Look for more on this in future.

Traffic: We've asked Mayor McGinn for an independent study of how the State's plan will impact local traffic.

Property: We've demanded that neither the City nor the State purchase or swap properties for construction or mitigation purposes prior to final environmental review of the State's plan.

Parks: We continue to talk with elected officials on the need to preserve our bays, trees, parklands, open spaces and historic sites.

Legislative work groups and City Council: Three legislative workgroups will meet to address SR 520 issues over the summer. The City Council will be holding hearings. Coalition members will be attending these meetings.

Elections: Coalition members are interviewing candidates running for office this fall. We want to support and urge you to support candidates who oppose the State's preferred SR 520 alternative.

SDEIS: After submitting countless pages of comment on WSDOT's *Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement*, the Coalition has received zero response. Our comments are on record, however, as a basis we may need for future lawsuits.

Our solution: We will only support an SR 520 plan that is financially feasible. Use what funds exist today to fix today's *safety* problems, now! Any further plan for the future must include 1.) no more than six lanes, with the fifth and sixth lane limited to bus and/or light rail and ending at the Montlake Cut; 2.) a total width of four lanes from Montlake to I-5 and 3.) adequate lids and noise protection.

Coalition Representatives: Fran Conley, coordinator, 206- 328-4444; Ted Lane, Roanoke Park /Portage Bay Community Council; Anita Bowers, Jonathan Dubman and Robert Rosencrantz, Montlake Community Council; Maurice Cooper, Madison Park Community Council; Colleen McAleer and Jean Amick, Laurelhurst Community Club; **Nancy Brainard, North Capitol Hill Neighborhood Association;** Gary Stone, boating community. Fundraising chair Mabry DeBuys. Treasurer Mary Ann Mundy.