

Magnolia Bridge Replacement Project Speakers Bureau

Group/Organization: Southern Magnolia Neighborhood (32nd Ave W Vicinity)
Date: February 19, 2003
Location: Seattle Yacht Club Outstation
Team Members: Kirk Jones, Teresa Platt, Marybeth Turner, Lee Holloway, Anthony Katsaros, Richard Butler, Brad Hoff, Sarah Brandt

Overview

More than 40 people attended the briefing targeted at Magnolia residents living on or near the western end of the proposed Alternative B (along the waterfront or near 32nd Avenue W). Kirk Jones presented an overview of the process to date and four alignment finalists, and then opened the floor for questions. Most of the crowd voiced opposition to the route.

Notes

Notes recorded on flipcharts were as follows:

- ◆ Who are the DAG members? The DAG appears to be weighted towards Alternative B
- ◆ Should there be a residential representative living along Alternative B on the DAG?
- ◆ Is Queen Anne representation proportional on the DAG? How about residential representation?
- ◆ Why aren't there residential reps on the DAG who would be impacted by B & H?
- ◆ Notification will create more opposition to Alternative B (many people still aren't aware of this possibility)
- ◆ There are serious flaws with the analysis used to choose finalists.
- ◆ Change of Magnolia's character is important and opposed – residents want status quo – quiet
- ◆ Reactions to early analysis and getting B to rate high – COST is not accurately conveyed
- ◆ Direct and indirect impacts must be emphasized - 8 homes destroyed, 28 total affected
- ◆ Is H the steepest? (Comparable to existing)
- ◆ Instead of tunnels or an extra bridge in H, eliminate the eastern end of the north piece
- ◆ Can you use the existing entrance to the bridge on the south portion of Alternative H
- ◆ Don't create delays in the time it will take residents to get home
- ◆ D & H – why do we need a northern portion of H?
- ◆ When will the Port respond to providing a proposed surface road – early enough to integrate into our project?
- ◆ Don't the Port plans have to integrate with this project?

- ◆ Port likes B? B keeps their land complete and whole
- ◆ Combo of B and Northern H = terrible proposal
- ◆ Concerned about intentions of the design team – pressure from other parts of the city could greatly influence decision
- ◆ Infrastructure is already in place for the current bridge – how will you account for that and the money that’s already been spent?
- ◆ Where will traffic from B go as it enters Magnolia Village?
- ◆ Awareness of traffic impacts due to B is low among Southern and Village area residents
- ◆ Have we looked at environmental analysis in marina legal agreement?
- ◆ Is the legal agreement binding – would need to renegotiate
 - Private – how does the agreement relate to public decisions
 - Are your lawyers making headway?
 - Shouldn’t the legal question be settled prior to EIS decision?
 - Condemnation appears to be the track the technical team is leaning towards
- ◆ When will you start spending money on the EIS
- ◆ How can you justify spending money when there are so many flaws with B?
- ◆ Residents feel need to threaten lawsuit to get B dropped
- ◆ When and why did you make the decision to expand from 3 to 4?
- ◆ B puts team in many lengthy environmental processes – 404, HPA, etc.
- ◆ H – surface route on the south could be unusable if Port developments creates huge volumes of traffic
 - A and D still high-speed routes that are favored
- ◆ No opposition to A – what would it take to get B off table?
- ◆ Public notification – improve (some didn’t hear about meeting until late)
- ◆ Has anyone on the project team walked the route? On-the-ground view
- ◆ Private conversations revealed only 2 of 75 were in favor of B
- ◆ Need more public education
- ◆ Urban Design: Criteria = strong bias for B
 - Paving shore
 - Cement canyon
 - Why B a “double star” in urban design is a mystery?
- ◆ 2 lanes won’t support all traffic
 - You haven’t addressed the Clise “drag strip” in and out of Village
 - Major intersection
- ◆ Village impacts by funneling traffic from B into area
- ◆ How is this information being relayed to the top? Dissent is loud and voiced by many, but that has been mischaracterized by the project team at the DAG meetings.
- ◆ Marina – Oppose B and support H.
- ◆ 2 access points will mitigate Port development and potential increase in traffic
- ◆ Note that the design team/DAG seem to be pushing for B and North H, which is a bad idea
- ◆ Providing access to the beach is illogical: Beach access already great on 32nd
- ◆ Can you use the road off Thorndyke? Bike path
- ◆ How will access be from B? Proportional – access to marina

- ◆ To develop Smith Cove Park at the expense of 2 other parks is senseless (Salt Water Park and Galer Park)
- ◆ Does B provide better access to Marina than other options? Doesn't look like it does.
- ◆ Transportation study first would eliminate B at lower cost.
- ◆ How will we be notified about legal agreement decision
- ◆ By using B – shooting itself in foot, could open door to Tribal casino
- ◆ B would lead to rezoning of residential (8) property
- ◆ Residents are circulating a petition citing the following reasons for not using B: legal agreement, habitat, chinook stream, parks
- ◆ Amgen/Port – why don't any alternatives provide additional capacity in light of the greater traffic generated by these groups?
- ◆ Support for A and D for maintaining existing traffic flow and capacity
- ◆ B and H = “Corporate Welfare”
- ◆ Magnolia Community Club hasn't voiced local opinions well
- ◆ Property will harmed along route
- ◆ “Replacement” is a misleading term (people think it will be exactly where it was)
- ◆ Daylighting of a salmon stream would be eliminated under B (Wolf creek)
- ◆ The team should guarantee no disproportionate hits to community members – spread impact
- ◆ Will Metro pump station 77 remain?
- ◆ Confidence in process is shaken given misrepresentation of opposition to Alternative B.
- ◆ Express view of this group to those making decisions
- ◆ Where do comments go?
- ◆ How does the group get a meeting with Mayor?
- ◆ Encouragement for letters opposing B.

Action Items

None.

Briefing Materials

- ◆ Fact Sheet
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions
- ◆ Comment Form