

VandenBerghe, Alissa (Consultant)

From: Tobin, Victoria
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2008 1:25 PM
To: Paananen, Ron; Dye, Dave; Bianchi, Ryan (Consultant); Grotefendt, Amy (Consultant); Lenz, KaDeena (Consultant); Fishkin, Emily (Consultant); Van Ness, Kristy (Consultant)
Subject: FYI - viaduct

FYI

Want to Help Stop the Great Wall of Chopp?

http://slog.thestranger.com/slog/archives/2008/12/02/want_to_help_stop_the_great_wa

Posted by [Erica C. Barnett](#) on Tue, Dec 2 at 12:30 PM

Then make your presence known at tonight's public forum on the Alaskan Way Viaduct, sponsored by the Seattle/King County Municipal League, from 6 to 8 pm in the Bertha Knight Landes Room on the first floor of City Hall, 600 Fourth Ave. The panelists are Seattle Department of Transportation director Grace Crunican; Downtown Seattle Association chair Patrick Gordon; King County Labor Council executive secretary Dave Freiboth; and People's Waterfront Coalition cofounder Cary Moon.

Some [talking points](#):

- All three surface /transit options for replacing the viaduct are **less expensive than any of the highway options**, have a lower risk of cost overruns, and take years less time to build than any of the highway megaprojects.
- House speaker **Frank Chopp's proposed elevated tunnel costs more than almost every other option**—\$2.2 billion, compared to less than \$1 billion for all the surface options. The **ONLY** more expensive option is a deep-bore tunnel running underneath downtown.
- Even that \$2.2 billion doesn't include any of the bells and whistles—the park, shops, and facades that would make an enclosed elevated highway more tolerable. Instead, **those would be funded by a tax Chopp believes businesses will want to pay to move under a freeway**—blocks away from downtown's shopping core. This assumption is unproven; if it proves optimistic, which seems likely, we'll be left with a bigger, wider, walled-off version of what we have today.