Dear Mr. Eastin,
We are sending you an email in order to comment on the Scope of the Snohomish county EIS. This project will have a significant impact on the roads of Richmond Highlands and Hillwood as drivers leaving Richmond Beach find alternate routes South and North and shortcuts in-between through our neighbourhood. These are residential neighborhoods with small children, dog-walkers, lots of pedestrians, joggers and kids and adults riding bikes on the streets. This project will impact our ability to continue to use the streets the way we are accustomed. As a result of the increase in traffic flow, they will become less safe for all of us in these neighborhoods. Many of us chose to live in this area because of the peace and quiet away from more urban environments. So you can understand that we are VERY concerned that resulting traffic patterns from Pt. Wells will impact life in our area of Shoreline and change neighborhoods to the point where living here will no longer be desirable for middle-class families like ours.

In addition to crowding of Richmond Beach Road up to the Aurora Avenue, our family is concerned about traffic increase on 6th Avenue NW between 180th St. and 175th St. This is a steep road that is quite crowded already in peak traffic periods in the morning to the point that merging from smaller roads is difficult. Many drivers from Edmonds take 8th Ave. down to 6th in order to access Aurora, I-5 and Greenwood Ave. Traffic will increase to the point where entering traffic from side streets will become impossible. All mitigation possibilities should be considered for this area.

Similarly, 3rd Ave NW between Richmond Beach Rd. and 176th St will likely be affected by increased traffic and installing speed bumps or traffic circles would help somewhat.

Very concerning is the right turn onto 176th St from 3rd Avenue. Going south, this road makes a very tight turn with poor visibility. We’ve already had several accidents here, people running off the road into the trees or going way above the speed limit. People routinely use this road for walking dogs; kids use it walking home from school as well. Increasing traffic volume would be extremely dangerous for walkers. Not sure how this could be addressed except to change the configuration of this street entirely, making it one lane with walking paths or somehow making it unappealing for drivers who are trying to find an alternate route to 6th Ave.

We are also concerned about traffic on 3rd Ave NW and Carlyle Hall Rd between 175th Street and Dayton Avenue. This road is a major arterial towards Aurora Avenue and has 25 MPH limit but drivers routinely exceed the limit. I personally bicycle on this road to work and while the traffic is frequently too fast, I rarely see police in the area. This road has a dirt shoulder. I would suggest following mitigation: speed bumps, police presence, and fixing the shoulder to make it more friendly to pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

We appreciate you adding our comments to the EIS.

Susannah Chace
Pavel Sova