Additional Public Comments Received for PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition  
(as of January 24, 2018)

[Comments # 1-33 and form letter, received through January 15, 2018, were included in the agenda packet.]

COMMENT #34

Me again. Just wanted to make one more comment:

I have been hearing from several people that the city is telling inquiring persons that the reason for the huge substantial pedestrian bridge is not to carry utilities but to accommodate emergency vehicles if the U.S. 2 bridge fails.

I'm guessing those comments are just one more dishonest diversion to garner support and also assume Transportation Alternative Program money is not for that purpose either.

Thank you.

Gerry Gibson

PSRC Response to Comment # 34

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your additional comments on this project. All of the comments you have provided will be presented to PSRC’s Executive Board and forwarded to the City of Sultan.

Thank you,

Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822

COMMENT #35

Ms. Gutschow

In my previous comments I mentioned that Sultan's reasons for seeking bridge grant money changes over time and with the "audience". Last week City officials provided yet another rationale at an informal gathering, as reported by attendees.... "BIG Substantial bridge is needed to accommodate emergency vehicles in case the US 2 bridge goes out."
Recent Everett Herald article about structurally deficient Snohomish County bridges
In contrast, Sultan’s fully functioning US 2 Bridge was resurfaced by WSDOT last summer. Some projects are more deserving than others of public funding and it is up to the PSRC to wisely distribute limited resources.

Judy Heydrick
Sultan, WA

PSRC Response to Comment # 35

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your additional comments on this project, including the comment and enclosures sent by post on January 5, 2018. All of the comments you have provided will be presented to PSRC’s Executive Board and forwarded to the City of Sultan.

Thank you,

Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822

COMMENT #36

Note: Comment sent via post. Scanned copy of this comment is included at the end of this document.

PSRC Response to Comment # 36

Thank you for your comment related to the funding being recommended through PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition. Your comment will be provided to the City of Sultan for their consideration, and will also be provided to PSRC’s Executive Board.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822

COMMENT #37

Dear Ms. Gutschow,

This letter is in support of the Sultan Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge project as I believe it will enhance and bring added vitality and a long-needed pedestrian connection to the community.
I’ve been involved as a citizen in numerous public meetings where this has been a topic of discussion over the past few years. Based on the knowledge I’ve gained throughout that process and my own research, I’ve come to the conclusion that this is an imperative and viable project for the City of Sultan.

There is a myriad of reasons why this project is essential in addressing the needs of our community and the well-being of our citizens, including the following:

- ADA-compliant bicycle and improved pedestrian accessibility to services
- Connectivity of River and Sportsman’s Parks
- User friendly and vigorous pedestrian network
- Promoting healthy lifestyles for our community
- Vital economic community connector
- Safer pedestrian routes for our school aged children living west of the Sultan River
- Improving access to our city center and enhancing our trail/town identity in alignment with Snohomish County tourism goals and strategies
- Residents and visitors can engage with our city in a broader context
- Emergency preparedness and disaster management (emergency evacuation route)

As a newly elected public servant to everyone in our community, not just those who share my views. After listening to community members, answering questions, addressing concerns, sharing insight and engaging the public.

I’ve come to the conclusion that this project provides multi-faceted benefits towards the overall inclusiveness and well-being of our community. This is a viable transportation alternative worth advocating for, I whole heartedly support this project.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christina Sivewright
Sultan City Councilmember Position #6

PSRC Response to Comment # 37

Thank you for your comment related to the funding being recommended through PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition. We will forward your comment to the City of Sultan for their consideration, and your comment will also be provided to PSRC’s Executive Board.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822

COMMENT #38

Hello,

My name is Werner Balcarcel, and I am a resident of Sultan, WA.

My opinion is this: Instead of spending millions of bucks for this bridge, why don't you please fix the potholes on First, Third and Fourth streets first?
Many more people drive these streets every day than walk over the blue bridge in Sultan. These potholes cause damage to tires and vehicles and they deserve priority over the bridge.

Thank you so much for your attention.

Werner Balcarcel / CSS2
Everett - Region 2 / Developmental Disabilities Administration
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

PSRC Response to Comment # 38

Thank you for your comment related to the funding being recommended through PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition. We will forward your comment to the City of Sultan for their consideration, and your comment will also be provided to PSRC’s Executive Board.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822

COMMENT #39

To whom it may concern;

My friends elderly mother walks across the Highway bridge to the post office every day. It is also her daily exercise but I feel it is very dangerous. The new pedestrian bridge would allow all the people living on the west side of town a safe way to walk in to town. It would also provide additional parking during events in town.

Please consider this project.

Thank you,
Delores Green

PSRC Response to Comment # 39

Thank you for your comment related to the funding being recommended through PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition. We will forward your comment to the City of Sultan for their consideration, and your comment will also be provided to PSRC’s Executive Board.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822
COMMENT #40

Hey Puget Sound Council,

I’d like to +1 the Bell Street PBL. I live nearby on 8th & Lenora and bike/run on the Elliott Bay Trail multiple times per week. This would be a perfect addition for me, especially the connection with the new protected bike lane on second. After seeing a cyclist get knocked down by a car (!!) last year downtown, I’m super paranoid about biking where cars go. This would be great!

Thanks,
Bridgette

PSRC Response to Comment # 40

Thank you for your comment related to the funding being recommended through PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition. We will forward your comment to the City of Seattle for their consideration, and your comment will also be provided to PSRC’s Executive Board.

Sincerely,
Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035
Tel: (206) 587-4822

COMMENT #41

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for several of the project recommended for 2017-2020 TAP funding:
- Bell St Protected Bike lane
- East Lake Sammamish Trail North Extension

Both of these project[s] will fill crucial gaps in an existing and growing bike trail system used by thousands of citizens each year. Through the network effect these small improvements increase the utility of the existing bike infrastructure and make biking a [m]ore viable and safe form of transportation.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Patrick Taylor
Seattle, WA

PSRC Response to Comment # 41

Thank you for your comment related to the funding being recommended through PSRC’s 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Competition. We will forward your comment to the City of Seattle and King County for their consideration, and your comment will also be provided to PSRC’s Executive Board.

Sincerely,
Sarah Gutschow, AICP
Senior Transportation Planner
January 11, 2018

City of Sultan
Sen. Wagoner
Rep. Eslick
Rep. Kristianson

RE: Sultan River Pedestrian Bridge

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to offer my full support for efforts to fund/complete a pedestrian bridge over the Sultan River joining the downtown core to westbound Hwy 2 environs, including Sultan’s only full size grocery store, the only medical/dental facilities and the nearest hospital in Monroe. I would like to emphasize that if there was a blocking accident on the US 2 bridge or a train catastrophe that not only blocked the 314th bridge but also required the closure of the HWY 2 bridge to respond to the event, the only options for residents to evacuate would be to head East on US 2 requiring hours of driving to return via I-90 to Puget Sound! If there was a pedestrian bridge option, at least citizens could be evacuated across the river to buses for transport to nearby support centers by emergency responders. If evacuation wasn’t required but a long term bridge closure due to traffic damage occurred (like the I-5 Skagit Bridge for example), at least upper Sky Valley and City of Sultan residents could still access the local grocer, bus line, medical staff by crossing the pedestrian bridge to westbound services available not only immediately west of town, but to the cities of Monroe, Snohomish, Everett & the eastside by public transit.

This bridge would also offer a valuable linking of River Park to Sportman’s Park directly across the river, providing another access option to downtown core businesses by those utilizing the west side park amenities and not wishing to navigate the road hazards of Hwy. 2 again to get there! This would also be a wonderful addition to amenities offered to Hwy 2 travelers wishing to stop, stretch their legs, enjoy the views (and the views are stunning from River & Sportman’s Park!), walk pets and hopefully also support local businesses. It would also tie in beautifully to proposed River/Osprey Park trail linkage proposals.

Thank you for your consideration of funding for this important project!

Sincerely,

[Toni Reading]

Toni Reading
Sultan, Wa
PSRC received an additional 28 copies of the attached form letter* signed and submitted by the following individuals:

Ronald Allen
Lonnie Bertram
Mike Birch
Victoria S. Cod
Garrett Dreyer
Jessica Edmunds
Phillip Elmer
Kerry Eubanks
Ron Hendershot
Bridget Igo
Darnell G. Koenig
Lorrie Lamonds
Mindy Larson
Sandra Martin
Maribel Martinez
Marisol Medina
Tami Mosebar
Brett Nichols
Maile Olssen
Jeff Padgett
Mark Parenteau
Chris Phraner
William Praegner
Calei Vaughn
VJ and Cyndi
Heather Walmsley
Kal Wright
Heidi Thomas-Wyman

Ten of the letters included the following additional comments:

- That would be great and safety for people walking to town would be greatly increased. – Lonnie Bertram
- Talk to some engineers years ago. It’s very much needed. Thank you. – Garrett Dreyer
- We need that bridge!! – Jessica Edmunds
- We need this!! – Kerry Eubanks
- I think we need one for safety. – Ron Hendersot
- Long past due! Safety 1st please! – Bridget Igo
- This would be a great asset and quite possibly life saving for our community. – Lorrie Lamonds
- Bridge is too narrow no 2 people can cross at the same time going opposite directions. This is much needed. – Tami Mosebar
- Many youth use this route, and with the pedestrian bridge they will be more protected. Many bikes need to travel between businesses and their home and it could be utilized by them also. – Maile Olssen
- This new pedestrian [bridge] will allow an aid car to reach my place in case the bridge over the Sultan River in case of a major disaster. I live on the west side of Sultan. – William Praegner

*15 copies were previously received and the information was included in the Executive Board agenda packet.
To: Puget Sound Regional Council  
Attention: Sarah Gutschow  
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500  
Seattle, Washington 98104-1035  
Email: tipcomment@psrc.org

January 3, 2018

Dear Ms. Gutschow,

This letter demonstrates my support of the Sultan Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge project, a long-needed pedestrian connection that will enhance the Sultan community. The existing footpath on WSDOT’s US 2 vehicle bridge is non-ADA compliant, at just 29-1/2 inches in width, making pedestrian, bicycle and wheelchair passage across the Sultan River a safety hazard.

In addition to enhancing the city’s network of pedestrian pathways, bolstering safety for families, improving access to parks and facilitating increased foot traffic in the city’s downtown core, the bridge promises to reduce the notoriously heavy traffic along US 2. Currently, residents forgo the opportunity to walk to services due to the precarious pathway, opting to drive along the already congested highway.

This bridge is vital to the Sultan community for many reasons, including the following:

• Enhances safety for residents  
• May reduce congestion on US 2  
• Connects two of Sultan’s most popular parks  
• In alignment with Snohomish County tourism goals and strategies  
• Supports downtown economic vitality  
• Adds ADA-compliant access where none exists

I strongly support this project. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

__________________________________________________

Additional comments:

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________