

Subject: FW: "Billboards Pitched" Your Friday March 29 Article

Date: Tue, 2 Apr 2002 14:19:39 -0800

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For your Information

I am becoming increasingly disappointed by the inaccurate information on the billboards and the bridge project.

John Hunter

-----Original Message-----

From: John Hunter [<mailto:johnhunter@idmail.com>]

Sent: April 2, 2002 2:09 PM

To: 'North Shore News Letters to the Editor'

Subject: "Billboards Pitched" Your Friday March 29 Article

Dear Editor:

I read your recent article "Billboards Pitched". Great title! I suggest that Councillor Denault also be pitched for trying to uglify DNV for the "loser" Dollarton Bridge project, and that Viacom be pitched for trying to scare residents with misleading information.

Voters approved the Dollarton Bridge project in Nov. 1999. They weren't told that the bridge twinning would benefit only 1 in 13 (survey 2001-2002) of the vehicles heading west on Dollarton in the morning rush hour. Only vehicles destined to points west of the Second Narrows bridge are helped, bypassing the line-up for the Second Narrows Bridge. Adding 50 lanes to the Dollarton Bridge would not help the other 12 vehicles trying to cross the Second Narrows Bridge to the south shore, because the bottleneck for them is the Second Narrows entrance, not the Dollarton Bridge. Indeed, I have an e-mail from the provincial District Highways Manager stating that they do not support this project in isolation- it must "be in concert with other infrastructure improvements in the area." Translation: "twinning

Dollarton before fixing the Second Narrows problem won't work".

C. Denault should know this - he has been told often enough - as late as March 18.

Viacom, the Dollarton line-ups are not from 7 to 10 AM as anyone who drives that route knows, and the line-ups heading home in the late afternoon are caused by various stoplights, not the bridge itself.

Please get your facts straight.

Finally, if Viacom would talk to John McPherson, Manager of Financial Services at DNV, they would find the tax increase if DNV does the bridge entirely on its own, with 20 year debt, would be 2%, not 18% as Viacom claimed.

If we are going to uglify DNV, at least do it for a project that makes sense.

As a professional practioner of PPP, I can tell you that PPP works in some circumstances, but PPP is NOT synonymous with billboards. I encourage and support generic PPP, but if we ever go this billboard route, let's reserve one billboard picturing the councillors who vote for it with the caption "dedicated to the uglification of DNV".

John Hunter, P. Eng.

North Vancouver

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