

RE: Potential Closure of Hickok Road, Mt. Vernon Tulip Town

Reference # TR-070696

To Carol Washburn Executive Secretary;
From Friends and including three Generations' of Dike and Britt Road Residents
and Farmers.

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
07 MAY 29 AM 9:09
STATE OF WASHINGTON
JULIA AND TRACY
COMMISSIONER

BNSF studies are pointed for their own benefit.

Please consider that the closure of Hickok puts additional traffic burdens on the residents for miles between Mount Vernon and Conway, it removes the Flood evacuation Route for all the Residents to the north along with severe health risks for delayed responses to our seniors already living within the district, who currently depend on Cederdale Fire Department and emergency aid car services. Think about your own grandmother waiting for help.

We just had (May 17/07) a horrific fire at the old Veal Pride Building on the 1600 Block of Dike Road in which was necessary for a dual Fire District response. There is no perhaps Conway could have helped alone.

We challenge you to involve the DOT's input who had to literally have a two Man safety Traffic Patrol at the Conway intersection on week ends the entire month or six weeks of Tulip season in April/ May which local traffic is diverted to surrounding roads.

Who is addressing the expansion project or future development projects that projects traffic count to I-5 and diversion to Hickox Road?

Hickox Road is also the safest route in emergency situations as it is already straight and allows for a higher MPH speed limit verses the Dike Road with slow curves and the cost of straightening sections of the road to meet the same response time we presently have.

We who use and live by this railroad crossing strongly encourage you to deny the request for proposed closure.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mary Arendse

Mary Arendse,

On behalf of Friends and Generational Family members of Dike & Britt Road. Mt. Vernon WA. 98273

PS Did I mention the "farmers" whose fuel expenses are already too high are at a financial risk and adding the burden of having to "drive miles around daily? This is an agricultural crossing too.

May 25, 2007

Please include us on any Hearing information

John + Mary Arendse

[Redacted]

Mt. Vernon WA - 98273