

To the Staff and Council of Historic Seattle (Pete Mills, Dennis Andersen, Sharon Coleman, Andrea Divoky, James Fearn, Michael Herschensohn, Larry Johnson, Mary McCumber, Tina O'Brien, Rick Sever, Marcia Wagoner):

I live with my husband and two young daughters, under the Aurora Bridge. Just a few hours ago, in broad daylight, as is often the case, a jumper impacted the lives, not only of our family, but many more witnesses who lived through the horrifying experience as well.

I am with the Aurora Bridge Stakeholders group, a partnership of residents, workers, City and State departments of transportation, and Seattle City DPD employees. We have come together to try to find a solution to the ever-worsening problem of jumpers off the Aurora Bridge. It is my understanding that WSDOT is presenting to you this week.

I'm writing to you as a Seattle resident. I'm also writing to you as a project manager who specializes in historic preservation and renovation (formerly at Barrientos LLC, now as Chair of the Seattle Chinatown Int'l District Preservation & Development Authority, among other organizations) . I understand the challenges in finding an architecturally acceptable solution. As a PM, I have always enjoyed making the impossible coalesce into workable solutions.

I also ask that you remember Aurora is the ONLY bridge in North America, besides the Golden Gate, that has not been retrofitted to solve this problem (in many cases, after far fewer incidents). I also ask you to note that the Aurora Bridge is not comparable to the Golden Gate - a far larger percentage of our beautiful bridge is over land.

Our case is unique. The reason my husband and I first moved to a houseboat facing the bridge was the amazing piece of engineering "sculpture" we got to enjoy in our "backyard" everyday. For the **thousands** of people who traverse the bridge, use the Burke-Gilman trail underneath, row at the club, ride the weekend ice-cream ferry, work in ever-increasing new office buildings, and/or live, as we do, under the bridge - providing safety to these people is also key. I dread to think of the day there is a secondary casualty - there have been many close calls.

Thanks for listening. I look forward to working with you to quickly develop a solution that will get rid of temptation as well as take the stress out of trying to live a normal life under the bridge.

Gemma "Gem" Daggatt  
206.786.6336  
[gemma@daggatt.com](mailto:gemma@daggatt.com)