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Industrial group wants new viaduct

By [JOURNAL STAFF](#)

SEATTLE — The North Seattle Industrial Association wants to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct with another viaduct.

A new viaduct would keep traffic and freight moving and is within the state's \$2.8 billion budget, the NSIA said in a letter to Governor Gregoire last week.

Earlier this month, the viaduct project team recommended two choices to replace the viaduct: a new double viaduct or a surface option.

The surface option “will cause conflicts between cars, bicycles and pedestrians and offers little improvement in environmental quality,” the NSIA wrote in its letter.

It also urged the governor to eliminate the tunnel option once and for all. Some proponents of the surface option are recommending that a tunnel be added at a later date.

“The NSIA does not believe ... that the public is dying to pay more tolls for a tunnel,” the group wrote.

The governor said she plans to make her decision this week about what will replace the viaduct.