

Fast, No Tolls, & Save \$2.7 Billion: The Best Way to Build the Bridges NOW!

January 21, 2010 By Steve Wiser, AIA WiserAIA@Hotmail.com

Bridging the Ohio River needs to happen now, at a cost of \$1.4 billion. And, pay for them without using tolls. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3. Here's how:



The new Natcher Bridge near Owensboro is a good example of a local access bridge and it cost \$55 Million

- 1** Don't build the tunnel. Instead use the \$261 Million estimated cost by taking 10% (\$26 M) and either:

 - Build a **duplicate** of the Drumanard Estate elsewhere
 - Or, dismantle the mansion and **relocate** it
 - The new location to become the "**Frederick Law Olmsted Interpretative Center**", with duplicative landscaping

- 2** Take the remaining tunnel amount (\$235 M) and **build two local-access bridges**: one parallel to the Clark Memorial Bridge, and the other parallel to the K & I Bridge. These local-access bridges will remove resident traffic from the Interstate bridges. Also, **Build I-71/I-64 East Downtown-Med Center Access Connector**

- 3** Connect these two new local-access bridges by an **upper-level 'busway'**. This busway will facilitate access for the Medical Center, Arena-Hotels-Downtown, Russell-Portland neighborhoods, New Albany, Clarksville, and Jeffersonville.

This local-access bridge-busway system can be built now and opened in near future. Also, convert one lane to 'reverse flow' on Clark Bridge. Plus, build east-end bridge but without the tunnel.

This reasonable approach will save \$2.7 Billion and thus minimize any need for tolls. Bridges can be affordable, greatly improve traffic, and increase economic development potential. For a logistics dependent community, metro Louisville cannot wait any longer.

Let's build these bridges NOW!

Local Access Bridges & Busway Proposal
How to Build New Bridges, Improve Traffic Circulation, Enhance Economic Development, with NO Tolls, in 5 Years or Less, at \$1.4 billion cost, saving \$2.7 Billion dollars

