Background
Environmental impact statements (EIS), are required by NEPA before any project is started to assess the impact said project will have. They contain a great deal of pertinent information that isn’t shared properly/ made accessible to local communities.

Internship and Methods
- worked with seattle subway to advocate for more expansive link light rail systems in the greater seattle area (fig. 1)
- Wrote an EIS for the Aurora Corridor
- Observed a difference between public info. and private info

Results
- There is a disconnect between federal and public environmental knowledge
- More digestible language needs to be used to grab attention and provide information (fig. 2)
- Easily dispensable syntheses of EIS summaries, spaces to speak about results and accessible versions are ways to use EIS as communication tools

Environmental Factor: | No action plan | Alternative action 1: |
---|---|---|
Water Quality | -pollution from road runoff | -slight decrease in road runoff |
Air Quality | -excess heat | ~15% decrease in traffic reducing pollution |

Significance
- Set a precedent for sharing environmental information
- Environmental knowledge should be more accessible

Thesis
Environmental impacts statements (EIS) need to be made more accessible and understandable in order to become more effective environmental communication tools

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