

#	Date Received	Subject	Citizen/ Group	Citizen Comments on Boulevard Park Shoreline Updated January 27, 2011	Notes/Status
1	06/18/08	Kayak Launch, Public Comment	Tom Barrett via email and telephone	<p>The kayak launch site at the northeast corner of Boulevard Park is commonly used, and has over the past year become a daily use site by the live aboards who moor their boats nearby. I am asking that this popular kayak launch site, which is near seasonal restrooms, parking and a nice staging area, be recognized on COB maps and be slightly improved with respect to improving access from the path/trail down to the beach.</p> <p>Please make publicly available a comment tracker for the Boulevard Park/overwater trail project so that citizens can see the comments of other interested folks and how you respond to them. Please email me the on-line location for this comment tracker.</p>	Staff will obtain additional information from Tom Barrett in order to address concerns regarding the kayak launch. A public comment tracker was created for the project website on 06/18/08. The comment tracker will be updated as comments are received.
2	06/19/08	Woods Coffee	Catherine Huhndorf via telephone	Concerned about walkway width around Woods Coffee. Has talked to Marvin Harris and would like an additional response. The walkway width around the water side of Woods coffee infringes on pathway and takes away from room available for park users. A railing has been installed and there has been no public process for this. Also concerned about how people would safely get out of the building since the gates are locked. It seems that this has taken more space from the general walking and biking public and we have no opportunity to give input about this.	These comments have been forwarded to the Park Director and Park Managers for consideration and offered to schedule a meeting to further discuss. Catherine will bring this comment forward at the public meeting on June 26, 2008.
3	06/26/08	Beaches/ Climate change	Citizen at public meeting	Beaches/climate change—more improvements to park necessary to deal with it?	There are plans to reduce erosion at Boulevard Park by creating gravel and sand beaches. Public meetings on this topic are planned for the year 2011
4	06/26/08	Why soft beaches?	Citizen at public meeting	What do soft beaches accomplish? Erosion control? Access?	There are plans to reduce erosion at Boulevard Park by creating gravel and sand beaches. This proposal would reduce erosion and increase public access to the water. Public meetings on this topic are planned for the year 2011.
5	06/26/08	Environmental Improvements	Citizen at public meeting	Ensure shoreline improvements include environmental improvements	
6	06/26/08	Parking	Citizen at public	Concern about parking and where it would be located; the existing Boulevard Park	Additional parking will be

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			meeting	parking is already very busy.	constructed with the Cornwall Point park.
7	05/25/10	Response to Comment 34, Boardwalk Extension	Council Member Stan Snapp snappcouncil@comcast.net	<p>... the planned softening of the shoreline all along Boulevard Park will be a welcome addition for hand launched craft. Imagine paddling up to the gravel beach and pulling up your kayak next to Woods coffee for a respite on a warm summers day.</p> <p>I do think that the current access at Taylor Dock along with the planned hand launch site at the foot of Cornwall, once cleaned up will be adequate for hand powered boaters. It's my hope that these new features will lead to a stronger park-like presence in the Waterfront district just as the Taylor Dock, Pattle Point and Boulevard enhancements have led to the newest propose over water walkway.</p>	
8	01/10/2011	Re: Beach at Boulevard Park	Denis Hayner 1101 McKenzie Ave, Unit 201 Bellingham, WA 98225 360-392-8741 denis.hayner@comcast.net	I read in the Herald of a plan to convert part of the lawn at Boulevard Park to a beach. I do not approve of diminishing the lawn. Please do not make this change. If you must have a beach, create it north of the park.	
9	01/11/2011	Fw: City seeks input on design of Boulevard Park shoreline	Linda Partlow Bellingham editor@nwbusinessmonthly.com	<p>I won't be able to make the meeting but I hope you can pass this along to the mayor:</p> <p>If you make this shoreline like Marine Park to make things easier for the kayakers, then PLEASE give them one area to unload and then unload their vehicles and then make them move! Marine Park used to be perfect for viewing from the car if required. Now, the kayakers take more than 80 percent of the prime parking spaces and leave their cars there all day long on nice days! There is a boat ramp area on the other side of the ferry terminal but they won't use it. There are other spaces down the road to park their vehicles after unloading, but they don't. Also, when they do get back, it takes them a good hour to load, change out of their suites and sit in their vehicles with the heaters on for another 20 minutes or so. Boulevard Park has already been ruined by Woods Coffee for people who don't drink coffee but want to enjoy the park - there is no longer enough parking no matter what time of day a person visits!</p>	
10		Preliminary Site Concept Drawing of	Susan Kaun 613 Donovan Avenue	I believe the creation of a naturalized beach area at Boulevard Park, as indicated on the Preliminary Site Concept Drawing, will provide a rare and wonderful access to the water for people in Bellingham. It is also my hope the new beach access will	

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		Boulevard Park Beach Access and Shoreline Improvements	Bellingham WA 98225 (360) 527-9660 kauns@q.com	<p>forge a vital connection between the public and Bellingham Bay, making them want to protect what they can touch and enjoy. When my grandchildren visit, they spend hours at the Marine Park beach, so I know the proposed new beach will be an endless delight for children of all ages!</p> <p>I live near Marine Park and visit it often. Similar creation of a beach access at Marine Park a few years ago has brought people into direct contact with the shoreline and its many wonders exposed at low tide. Prior to creation of the beach, people sat on the grass, but now the beach area always has people, no matter the time of year. I've noticed that kayakers and other non-motorized water craft seem to use Marine Park a great deal, probably due to easy access via the beach.</p> <p>Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposal.</p>	
11	01/26/2011	Public Comment on Blvd. Park Shoreline Restoration	Wendy Harris w.harris2007@comcast.net	<p>I cannot support the Boulevard Shoreline restoration project at this time. I support shoreline restoration in general, and believe that there is an important need for this type of work. However, shoreline restoration should be viewed in the context of the larger restoration of the Bellingham Bay waterfront, and should be based on a comprehensive, coordinated eco-system based master plan that results in full restoration of all shoreline ecological functions.</p> <p>This is a primary principle of the Shoreline Management Act, which states that: "ever increasing pressures of additional uses are being placed on the shorelines necessitating increased coordination in the management and development of the shorelines of the state...there is, therefore, a clear and urgent demand for a planned, rational and concerted effort...to prevent the inherent harm in the uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state's shorelines."</p> <p>RCW 90.58.020. Ad hoc projects, even restoration projects, that are not the result of such coordinated efforts violate the provisions of the SMA.</p> <p>In particular, there is a push to restore the shorelines to allow for the unrestricted use by people without consideration of water quality impacts or fish and wildlife impacts. Increased public access to the shorelines must be balanced against the other needs and uses that the shoreline performs. The SMA mandates that the City manage Bellingham Bay shorelines in a manner that recognizes and protects statewide interests over local interest, rather than simply accommodating popular demand.</p> <p>Given the increased human presence that will result from the Cornwall Walkway and the waterfront redevelopment, what efforts are being made to ensure adequate protection of fish and wildlife and their habitat in this area of the Bay? This includes migratory fish, spawning forage fish, wintering seabirds, marine mammals and other aquatic life, many of which are state priority species. In particular, this could have harmful impacts to several species of salmon,</p>	<p>A cumulative impact analysis was performed by the City of Bellingham as part of the Shoreline Master Program. Please reference the bottom of Page 10 of the Over Water Walkway Staff Report.</p> <p>Boulevard Park is an artificial shoreline. Consultants, under contract with the City, conducted an evaluation that shows the proposed over water walkway structure will have no significant impact on the shoreline at Boulevard Park and at the Cornwall Landfill site. Reference the following report: Erosion and Sediment Transport Evaluation.</p>

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				<p>particularly Chinook salmon, all of which require nearshore estuarine land to acclimate to a change from saltwater to fresh water. As far as I am aware, the City has not incorporated any mitigation into this proposal to compensate for loss of fish and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>Additionally, I am concerned about the underlying shoreline erosion that is the basis for this restoration project. As you know, this proposal is located adjacent to the Paddle Point Trestle and the Taylor Dock. Overwater structures are known to have significant, long-term cumulative impacts on sediment transport and beach erosion. Has the City determined the extent to which these overwater structures have contributed to the erosion of Boulevard Park shoreline? This is important information for appropriate beach restoration use and design and the City should not be proceeding without information necessary to incorporate the use of updated, current science and ensuring that this project will not result in a net loss in shoreline functions.</p> <p>I am aware that the City has refused to conduct a cumulative impact analysis on the planned Boulevard Park/Cornwall Landfill Overwater Pedestrian Bridge, and ½ mile Overwater Bridge, and the impacts from this bridge should be clearly understood before a beach restoration project occurs in this area.</p> <p>Nor have we determined that restoration at this particular site is the most sustainable restoration project, i.e., the one that will result in the greatest restoration of natural shoreline functions. This is not a concept that I have seen anyone at the City discuss.</p> <p>In sum, I do support the restoration of all Bellingham Bay shoreline ecological functions, but believe this should be accomplished after understanding the long term cumulative impacts of other shoreline projects in the vicinity, and proceeding under a coordinated ecosystem plan that meets public health and safety needs, fish and wildlife needs, recreational needs, and commercial and residential needs. However, this can not be accomplished by proceeding on an ad hoc basis, project by project.</p> <p>I commend the City for its efforts to improve our shorelines. It is clear that this project is proposed with good intentions. However, I believe a little more comprehensive planning and effort is required before we move forward.</p> <p>Sincerely Wendy Harris</p>	
12	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	How do we know the beach creation will solve the erosion problem?	The gravel and sand beach would be designed to be self sustaining. Some maintenance would be required.
13	01/26/2011	Boulevard	Comment	What is the cost for work to maintain the shoreline to date?	The Park Operations

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		Shoreline	Received at Public Meeting		Department has completed various maintenance projects as a result of the shoreline erosion. This includes trail repairs, relocating the trail, and placing new gravel in the eroded areas.
14	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	What about sea level rise?	The design will take into account an average of 3 feet sea level rise.
15	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	How do the groins work? Is there a history of failure?	The correct placement of the groin is important. The Boulevard Park shoreline is an artificial shoreline. The purpose of the groin would be to retain the new gravel and sand material. The design would utilize a wave model that has been established for Bellingham Bay.
16	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	What are the alternatives to creating a beach?	Alternatives may include replacing the concrete rubble with rip rap and varying the depth and length of the gravel and sand in the beach creation areas.
17	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Need more time for public review of the alternatives.	
18	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	What was the cost of the improvements at Marine Park?	Approximately \$300,000
19	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Grass areas are highly utilized.	
20	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Where is normal mean high tide?	Approx. 8.5 foot level.
21	01/26/2011	Boulevard	Comment	What is the proposed design for the beaches?	Gravel beaches can be steeper

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		Shoreline	Received at Public Meeting		at a slope of 5 units horizontal for every 1 unit vertical. Sand areas must be flatter. The combination of sand and gravel allow for a beach to fit in a smaller footprint.
22	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Will there be a loss of land?	The lawn area would be converted to beach. The same area would be present.
23	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	How long is the proposed west beach?	The west beach shown in the conceptual design is approximately 230 feet long. The existing beach at Marine Park is approximately 300 feet long.
24	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	More kayak use at Marine Park resulted in an increase of parked cars.	
25	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Will large rocks be removed? This may increase swimming.	
26	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Could one beach have more sand?	The north end beach is existing and is a better location for sand. The existing beach at the foot of Cornwall Avenue may also be expanded into a larger sandy beach.
27	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Observed that the trail would not be relocated very much if the West Beach is created.	
28	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Most active use is between the trail and the Parking lot.	
29	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Do we know the velocity of big storms?	A wave model was completed as part of the waterfront district planning.
30	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Alternative – build shoal in the water to diminish wave damage?	This would not be a viable option without expensive mitigation due to eelgrass at

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					the near shore.
31	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	The over water walkway will connect to Cornwall landfill park, which will include more park land.	
32	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Can we improve habitat?	Studies show that many invertebrates are located in the top layer of small gravel.
33	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Kids and parents are on the beach at Marine Park. The grass at the park is saturated this time of year, so people prefer to be on the sand and gravel beach.	
34	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Any plans to improve lawn for drainage?	There are no current plans to replace the drainage and irrigation systems at Boulevard Park.
35	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Size of gravel for beaches?	Conceptually similar to Marine Park – approximately 3/8” to 1 1/2” diameter gravel.
36	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Has there been a shoreline analysis based on user groups, parking, etc?	Please reference the 2004 Waterfront Futures Group Report
37	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Place benches on the water side of the trail	
38	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	How will construction be phased? Will the Park be closed to the public?	
39	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Beaches will not preclude current uses, but will add uses.	
40	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	What are “groins”?	Groins can be cast-in-place concrete made to look like natural sandstone. Groins can also be made out of rock.
41	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	The area noted as “Pete’s Beach” may be the most popular because that is where the sun is.	
42	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Need to be aware of kids wanting to go to the beach near the playground. The playground is a popular place and kids will want to go to the beach.	

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43	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Groins will invite walking and need to be safe.	
44	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Concerned about construction impacts while the Park is open.	Marine Park took about 2 months to complete the heavy earthwork for the beach area.
45	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Account for sea level rise	Sea level rise would require too much fill material and be very costly. It may be more economical to plan for a 30 to 50 year design now.
46	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Construct a sea wall	A seawall would be more costly than a gravel beach and it may be difficult to obtain permit approvals.
47	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Access work by barge? Use rock from Lummi Quarry?	Lummi quarry does not produce round gravel suitable for this type of project. Access by barge is possible.
48	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Is there contamination in the south end of the Park?	Currently, there is no suspected contamination in the southern beach areas. The boundary of the South State Street Manufactured Gas plant is still under investigation.
49	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	What is the history of the Wood Coffee Building?	Possible former mill building. Also may have been used for boat building.
50	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Is there a plan for erosion protection at the north end of the park?	The current plan is to remove concrete rubble and other hazards and to improve the gradation of rocks in this area.
51	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	How far will the beach extend out into the water?	The beach would extend to the 0 foot tide mark and will not extend out to the eelgrass.
52	01/26/2011	Boulevard Shoreline	Comment Received at Public Meeting	Have another meeting and place flagging on the site during the summer time.	
53	01/26/2011	Boulevard	Comment	How much material would be removed?	The goal would be to remove

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		Shoreline	Received at Public Meeting		all concrete rubble and any other potential hazards in the chosen work area to make the site safer.
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