

Highlights of the Blethen and friends plan:

- Two options for the rest of the ASB would be used either as a marina or as restored wetlands.
- As a marina the inside edge of G-P's water treatment lagoon (often called the ASB, short for Aerated Stabilization Basin) would be filled in, to create expansive public green space that would be connected to a trail corridor around the ASB.
- The breakwater of the ASB would be opened in three places, to improve water circulation for habitat and better fish migration passage.
- Georgia-Pacific's tissue warehouse would be turned into dry-stack storage for 600 boats or more, with call-ahead service that could move any boat into the water with one hour's notice with other ancillary services.
- Commercial Street would be extended onto the former Georgia-Pacific property all the way to the water, providing a view of the dome of the Mount Baker Theatre in one direction and Eliza Island in the other.
- One half of streets on the G-P site would follow the same grid as the downtown tying the waterfront to the existing downtown.
- To offer the best sight lines for water, islands, sun and sunsets, the street grid on the portion of the G-P site closest to the log pond would be rotated about 45 degrees from the grid that includes Laurel and Commercial streets.
- A pedestrian bridge would cross Whatcom Waterway, as an extension of Laurel Street.
- A Public green space at least 200 feet wide would line most of the east side of the Whatcom Waterway, with a much wider triangle of green space near the log pond in compliance with shorelines setbacks.
- The east side of Whatcom Waterway, inland of the Laurel Street pedestrian bridge, would be softened and naturalized. A shallow bench for salmon would be built.
- The Federal Channel on Whatcom Waterway would be maintained at 30-foot depth next to the current Port Shipping Terminal, but the rest of Whatcom Waterway, starting at the outside edge of the ASB, would be removed from Federal jurisdiction and be shallowed subject to contamination studies.
- A breakwater would be built partially across Whatcom Waterway, at about the outside edge of the ASB (on the shipping terminal side), to calm the water for small boats and a smaller breakwater would be installed at the pedestrian bridge.
- Land along Laurel Street would be offered to Western Washington University or another educational facility.
- Land next to the current Port Shipping Terminal would be designed to accommodate the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the federal agency that has held discussions with City and Port officials about plans to move its Seattle operation to either Bellingham or Everett.
- Land that is not covered with fill would be reserved for a Native American site subject to tribal interest and approval.
- No channels would be carved through the G-P site because of numerous environmental considerations.
- The sandy beach at the end of Cornwall Avenue might be expanded.
- A location for a marine research/educational facility such as Terra Aquarium is identified.
- The shoreline would be appropriately softened from the end of Cornwall Avenue to the cove near Wharf Street now crosses the railroad tracks.
- The railroad tracks would be moved toward the bluff parallel to Cornwall

- Avenue, leaving enough space for two tracks.
- A sandy beach would be created in front of the I & J Waterway.
- Space for small hand carry boats would be designed at the foot of Cornwall Avenue, on Whatcom Waterway near Roeder Avenue, and on the inside of the ASB near the I & J Waterway.
- Several stops for water taxis would be created.
- Boat launch and marina parking would be moved away from Whatcom Waterway.
- An over-water path to Boulevard Park from the foot of Cornwall Avenue would be constructed.
- A bioswale marsh would be constructed inland of the Cornwall Landfill, to capture stormwater that moves down from Sehome Hill and provide for habitat.

Blethen Bio

- Age 62.
- Bellingham resident since 1969.
- Member of Waterfront Futures Group and chair of WFG's work group on Natural Systems and the Environment.
- Owner of New Whatcom Interiors, a cabinet shop in downtown Bellingham.
- Former two-term member of Bellingham Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.
- Former two-term member of Greenway Advisory Committee.
- First board chair of Community Food Coop, in the 1970s.
- From 1970 to 1973 founded and ran Toad Hall, a community based coffeehouse and pizza parlor Blethen describes as "the first alternative business in Fairhaven."
- Built community gardens and trails