

#	Date Rec'd	Subject	Citizen/ Group	Citizen Comments on New Whatcom Waterfront Planning – April 2007
	<i>Last Update 3/31/2007</i>			<i>Citizen comments received from citizens submitting comment to the Port and City and through the New Whatcom website through March 2007. Prior month comments can be viewed on the website in separate monthly documents.</i>
285	4/22/07	City's final work session & Ecology's response-Whatcom Waterway RI/FS	Frances Badgett <frances@mac.com>	Please include the Planning Commission's final work session on the Shoreline Master Program on Thursday, April 26th at 7PM in City Council Chambers. Also please post a mention that Ecology's response to the Whatcom Waterway RI/FS is due out in late May/early June.
284	04/19/07	Railroad Quiet and Safety Zone	Donna Auer President, SHNA	<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PO Box 4425 Bellingham, WA 98227-4425</p> <p>Dear Mayor Douglas,</p> <p>On behalf of the South Hill Neighborhood Association (SHNA), I am writing to ask that you consider the possibility of a Railroad Quiet and Safety Zone for the City of Bellingham.</p> <p>This year, our neighbor, Gene Shannon, gave an excellent presentation on this idea. His expertise with the federal regulatory process was apparent and he described how all citizens, as well as waterfront businesses, services and residents, would benefit from less railroad noise. We were impressed with not only the prospect of "quiet" but also how these quiet zones actually enhance safety standards at railroad crossings along the tracks in a city.</p> <p>In recent years, train whistles have become increasingly louder; yet at the same time, many cities have enacted railroad quiet and safe zones to reduce the impact of this noise. For instance, one of our neighbors cited the efficient application and recent establishment of a quiet zone in San Diego. Additionally, cities that have been most successful in establishing quiet zones are those that form a strong and viable working partnership within City departments, and with the Port, adjacent neighborhoods, and all stakeholders.</p>

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				<p>This is a good time to give thought to a railroad quiet and safety zone along the bay, especially as we are in the midst of creative planning for the New Whatcom area, with its many park and recreational enhancements, businesses, institutions, and residential units.</p> <p>The South Hill Neighborhood Association hopes that you will seriously consider a Bellingham Railroad Quiet and Safety Zone. Many of our neighbors would enjoy participating with the City and Port in this effort.</p> <p>Response: Dick McKinley, City of Bellingham, Public Works Director You may not be aware, but the City Public Works Department, after having conversations with Gene Shannon and others, is moving forward on the railroad quiet zone issue. We have hired a consultant who will do the first part of the analysis (to identify what needs to be done to each crossing to meet the quiet zone standards), which will allow us to have the more informed discussion as to costs and timing. As Gene rightly pointed out, we need to keep this issue in the forefront as we negotiate with the railroad (BNSF) about the railroad relocation issue for the waterfront.</p>
283	4/11/07	EIS Scoping Public Comment Period	Elisabeth Britt <ebritt123@hotmail.com>	<p>Re: 21 day public comment period for EIS Scoping for New Whatcom Waterfront project.</p> <p>The New Whatcom Waterfront EIS Scoping powerpoint states that there will be a 21 day comment period, but it does not list the date range comments will be accepted nor does it list a contact person and/or telephone number that can be used if someone has questions. Finally, it would be useful to know who we should be submitting comments to. Or, at the minimum, what e-mail address we can use to submit written comments.</p> <p>On April 2, 2007, I sent an e-mail to the WAG e-mail address listed on the website requesting the above information, but have not received a reply. Could you please take a few moments to let me know the date range for the 21 day comment period and explain the process for formally submitting written comments to the Port and City regarding the EIS scoping?</p> <p>Thank you in advance for your time.</p> <p>Response: Thank you for your comment. We are currently finalizing the scoping documents and are contemplating a scoping period from April 19-May 10, 2007. When the scoping documents have been finalized a public notice will be published in the Bellingham Herald with all the appropriate</p>

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				<p>timeframes and associated process.</p> <p>Bellingham Publication Dates: April 19, April 22, and April 29</p> <p>Followup Response: Refer to the Port of Bellingham website, www.portofbellingham.com Click on Waterfront Redevelopment, Latest Redevelopment News for more information.</p>
282	4/5/07	Website Updates	Jim Johannessen <jj@coastalgeo.com>	<p>I could not make the meeting at the ferry terminal last evening so I came to the Port and the New Whatcom websites--only to find no updates at all. Can the new info please be posted at the same time as public meetings, if not before. Thank you.</p>
281	4/4/07	Waterfront presentation	"Avielle Heath" <grimrain@hotmail.com.>	<p>Hi Sylvia,</p> <p>It's Avielle from the activities committee at Whatcom Community College. We spoke briefly a week or two ago about you coming to do a talk at the college on the 29th of May. We've been trying to organize the spring quarters activities. I apologize for the slow start with things. For your talk on May 29th would it be possible for you to focus on the environmental improvements that you will be doing for the water front. Our theme for this quarter is global awareness. I want to educate the students on what Bellingham is doing to help promote a safer environment. Do you have any particular way in which you'd like us to advertise for your talk?</p> <p>Thank you</p>
280	4/1/07	Cleanup Plan	Scott Wild, Wild Card Adventures <swild7@juno.com>	<p>Planners,</p> <p>I believe the majority of Bellingham's people have repeatedly made it perfectly clear that, regardless of the cost, and no matter what the final design for the new waterfront development, we want the most comprehensive, long range clean-up plan implemented.</p> <p>Please count me in the majority camp on this one. Thank you for representing us</p>

