

#	Date Rec'd	Subject	Citizen/ Group	<p align="center">Citizen Comments on New Whatcom Waterfront Planning – March 2008</p>
<i>Last Update 2/29/2008</i>				<i>Citizen comments received from citizens submitting comment to the Port and City and through the New Whatcom website through March 2008. Prior month comments can be viewed on the website in separate monthly documents.</i>
317	3/12/08	Historic buildings; adaptive reuse	Mary Rossi	<p>My name is Mary Rossi, and I am attending the March 12, 2008 Meeting. I would like to bring attention to the importance of applying the concept of “adaptive reuse” to the historic buildings in the New Whatcom Redevelopment area. The Port’s DEIS presents a set of assumptions applicable to the Redevelopment Alternatives (#1-3). For review purposes (max. environmental impacts), it is assumed that all but 12 buildings could be removed. However 10 of the 24 buildings that would be removed are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Before demolition, the Port should study the possibility of adaptive reuse. I understand a level of this may have been done in 2004 as part of a due diligence study, but I have not found the report on the Port’s website. Adaptive reuse may prove to be better economically, environmentally, and socially than demolition & new construction. It also serves to maintain the community’s unique history, and it often promotes heritage tourism.</p> <p>Please consider carefully the option of adaptive reuse when choosing an alternative on the waterfront. Once a building is gone, we can’t get it back, and we may have lost significant benefits to the community.</p>
316	3/19/08		Terry Montonye <terrymontonye@msn.com>	<p>Lydia,</p> <p>OK, I left it to you to get the waterfront squared away and it's obvious you're having a tough time doing it. So, with the interests of taxpayers and salmon at heart, here's what you do:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 14th St bridge proposed in today's Herald Letter to the Editor (LTE) becomes a 'golf cart bridge' (see my Monday LTE attached). 2. Tell the mayor to keep the \$26M and make the Chuckanut Ridge development integral to the development of the waterfront and downtown , e.g., get the developer to put nice 1.5 car garage houses out there to help attract industries and professional folks to the waterfront and downtown.

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				<p>Cont'd</p> <p>Suddenly we'll be a golf cart city, too, and all these tree huggers around here will have less to worry about, more fish to catch and more money to spend.</p> <p>Terry</p> <p>LTE: Perhaps they haven't noticed. The price of oil has reached \$110 a barrel and big boats aren't pushing themselves around Puget Sound like they used to.</p> <p>Has any person in any of the talking circles in this town ever visited a huge boatel such as Lynnhaven at Virginia Beach? Have any of them ever seen how people get around in golf carts at The Villages in Central Florida? Have any of them ever attended a big SPIE show?</p> <p>My point is that the world is changing and this community had better get its collective head out of the sand or old folks, poor folks and college kids will be all</p> <p>Cont'd</p> <p>that's left when the oil really gets scarce. More dismal parks and polluting marinas are the last things we'll need.</p> <p>Traders and techies in offices and manufacturing shops, on the other hand, and alternative modes of transportation are what we will need.</p> <p>And, now's the time to get'em! "Upward not outward" should be our clarion mission. Just that, plus promoting our competitive credentials as a promising short-commute teleconferencing city with massive cost-savings potentials due to a very tiny carbon footprint, will yield enormous benefits both to ourselves and to our environment.</p> <p>Terry Montonye Bellingham</p>

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				<p>Cont'd</p> <p>Response: <i>Lydia Bennett, CCIM, CPM Director of Real Estate Port of Bellingham</i></p> <p>Thanks, Terry! I always appreciate your comments and thoughts; I enjoy reading them in letters to editors as well. We are really trying to make this a reality and, although slow going, we are moving forward inch by inch.</p> <p>I am looking forward to the completion of the master plan this summer -- please plan to attend whatever "unveiling" event there may be. It is always exciting.</p> <p>Best regards, Lydia</p>
315	3/7/08	Concept Planning	'Rod Burton'	<p>Concept B is clearly superior in many ways & a stronger downtown to waterfront connection. A visual connection back from the water to the mountains, more usable and exciting public spaces. Though the engineering to construct the connection for Concept B may be more difficult and costly, we should make this investment for our future as a great city.</p>
314	3/4/08	Public Information Station	'Mark Geri, Advertising Sales, The Whatcom Independent'	<p>Good morning Ann,</p> <p>Yes, I did get the contract back. Thank you for getting it back to me so quickly.</p> <p>I also wanted to share with you that people have been communicating with me about the information station and in a very positive light. These members of the public are delighted to see this level of inclusiveness in the Ports planning process. I'm sure I will receive an even greater level of positive feed back about the website.</p> <p>Thanks again,</p> <p>Mark Geri Advertising Sales The Whatcom Independent (www.whatcomindy.com) 676-9411</p>

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313	3/3/08	Waterfront Planning	'Wally Caviness' <emuwally@yahoo.com>	<p>Dear Port Commission,</p> <p>When will you commissioner's get it in your head that what we have on the Bellingham Waterfront is very unique to not only Bellingham, but to the whole west coast of America.</p> <p>Why do you think Henry Peabody came to Bellingham Bay 1852? It was that the Bay was very unique in that it had one of only a few waterfalls tat emptied directly into the sound.</p> <p>You have already destroyed one part of the Bay by letting people with money take away a treasured part of the Bay by putting in restaurants, etc.</p> <p>You have allowed letting those privileged few with money, enjoy the view and scenery of the Bay. The waterfront belongs to all the people not just the few who are rich, which you have allowed. As a former teacher at Whatcom Middle School for fifteen years, I have seen the destruction of the waterfront by big money.</p> <p>I used to take my physical education students and my track teams jogging along the shorelines in the coal sand. Not anymore!!!!!!</p> <p>Someone made a quote "money is the root of all evil"...you as commissioners have allowed the people with big money to sway your opinion on the use of the waterfront.</p>