

#	Date Rec'd	Subject	Citizen/ Group	<p align="center">Citizen Comments on New Whatcom Waterfront Planning – January 2009</p>
<i>Last Update</i> 12/31/08				<p><i>Citizen comments received from citizens submitting comment to the Port and City and through the New Whatcom website through November 2008. Prior month comments can be viewed on the website in separate monthly documents</i></p>
409	1/30/09	Waterfront Clean up Concern	Matt Paskus <matt@paskus.net	<p>I would like to thank you for allowing me to share a concern along with 1300 other families(and counting) have in regard to large jet aircraft traffic and the environmental risk and quality of life issues we are facing within our great county. We are placing our city at risk if we continue to support the Port of Bellingham's expansion and effort to attract and generate air traffic here.</p> <p>I have a degree in Environmental Resource Management from Huxley and started a website called BLInet.org (DRAFT). With the help and support of a local artist, BLInet.org looks to share information about the impacts of air travel on our great city. The image alone tells a story and I hope you will enjoy the site as it develops. I am not against airlines. My goal is to offer our city and county a better alternative. We have tried to bring commercial aircraft here for the last 40 years. Times have changed and with Vancouver, Everett, Seattle, and Abbotsford within reach, I would hope we can focus our efforts in supporting a better way of life while protecting what we have left and shifting our mind set.</p> <p>You will hear people say that the airport is an economic engine, in reality it is not when you weigh the risks. If we were to focus our energy on rail, the economic advantage would surpass any expansion offered by an airport. Linking Puget Sound cities by rail to an existing airport will not only stimulate our economy but set an example for the rest of the country. Right now Allegiant's is catchment is lower BC (80-85%). The environment and what draws people here is not cheap flights, but its overall beauty and quality of life.</p> <p>My graduate work at Western focuses in on the impact of large jet aircraft on small cities. As you all know we have an opportunity to focus our efforts away from unsustainable, speculation, and the impacts of pollution. BLInet.org offers you a perspective that allows us to think twice and possibly allows our children's children to keep Bellingham, Bellingham.</p> <p>When you look at the Bellingham's Tourism's Website</p>

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				<p>(http://www.bellingham.org/) the illustrations and the words "unspoiled and authentic" represent the same goals that BLInet.org will achieve. I have asked business leaders to support alternate forms of transit for a reason, not because of greed, or trying to protect an industry for the sake of past mistakes. With a heart for travel and a citizen of this county, I would love to help this city grow in a new way so generations can look back and say we did the right thing. So I would ask you to review media presentations, press guides, mission statements, and websites, and rewrite the definition for "community" today. As we look over the Bellingham Bay that's all there is and adding another layer that chips away at what we are trying to protect and which serves others outside our great community is worth the continued drive to an alternative airport.</p> <p>If you need me to share and/or present the details of my study I would be happy to share my work with you.</p> <p>Rail is there!</p>
408	1/18/09	Huxley Undergraduate Study Inquiry _ Kevin Vandenheugel	Kevin Vandenheugel vandenk5@gmail.com	<p>Waterfront Office,</p> <p>My name is Kevin Vandenheugel and am an undergraduate student in Huxley College. I'm constructing a paper on the waterfront development as part of my research at Western, and am looking into hazards mitigation and disaster reduction in regards to any redevelopment plans by both the City and the Port. I have uncovered some information from the SDEIS, including a great overview of any relevant natural hazards, but I haven't found too much concerning the actual mitigation measures the City or the Port would take.</p> <p>Do you have any suggestions in terms of documents I could reference, public meetings I could attend, or websites or contacts which might be helpful in uncovering more about what the City has done in terms of research into the waterfront's natural hazards, or mitigation efforts it plans to take?</p> <p>Thanks so much for your time. There is intense interest amongst many of the Huxley undergraduates about the future of the waterfront, and I excited to learn more about the process.</p>

