

Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Fairhaven Middle School  
Natural Environment, Parks and Recreation

# Fairhaven Neighborhood and Urban Village Plan – Meeting #2



# Introductions – Recap of Meeting #1

- SWOT Analysis
- Planning Area Boundaries

*Input gathered from meetings will be used to create:*

- Neighborhood and Urban Village Master Plan =
- “The Vision”
- Development Regulations = “The Rules”



# SWOT – Top Responses

## ■ Strengths

- Good variety and mix of uses
- Different transportation modes/corridors
- 100+ years of urban use/vibrant business core
- Historic character/buildings
- Waterfront

## ■ Weaknesses

- Parking limitations
- Bisected by arterials
- Underutilized waterfront
- BNSF tracks/limited Bay access



# SWOT – Top Responses

## ■ Opportunities

- Improved/direct waterfront access
- Padden Creek & Estuary restoration
- Vacant lots
- Short-term moorage
- Tourism

## ■ Threats

- Lack of height limits/view blockage
- Coal trains
- No long-term parking
- Traffic
- “Disneyfication”
- NIMBYism
- Urban Village sprawl

# Boundary Exercise

- 38 Responses Submitted
  - 22: Existing boundary for planning area or greater
  - 26: Extend northwards to include all or some of Port property – create transition/approach zone
  - 15: specifically extended core down Harris
  - Some concern noted for residential – what would it mean?



# Public Meeting Series

1. DONE – Project framework, boundaries
2. TODAY–Natural Environment, Parks and Recreation
3. May 25<sup>th</sup> – Fairhaven Design Review District and historic resources. (also May 24<sup>th</sup> with HPC)
4. June 8<sup>th</sup> – Village Core
5. June 22 – Village Core



# Meeting #2: Overview

- Part 1: Presentations – 1 hour
  - Shoreline history and regulations
  - Port of Bellingham property
  - Critical areas – Padden Creek, Padden Estuary & Post Point
  - Parks and Trails – History and future
- Part 2: Exercise – 30 min.
  - Review maps, ask questions, review document – what is missing?
- Part 3: Re-group and share findings – 30 min.



Photo by Alan Fritzberg



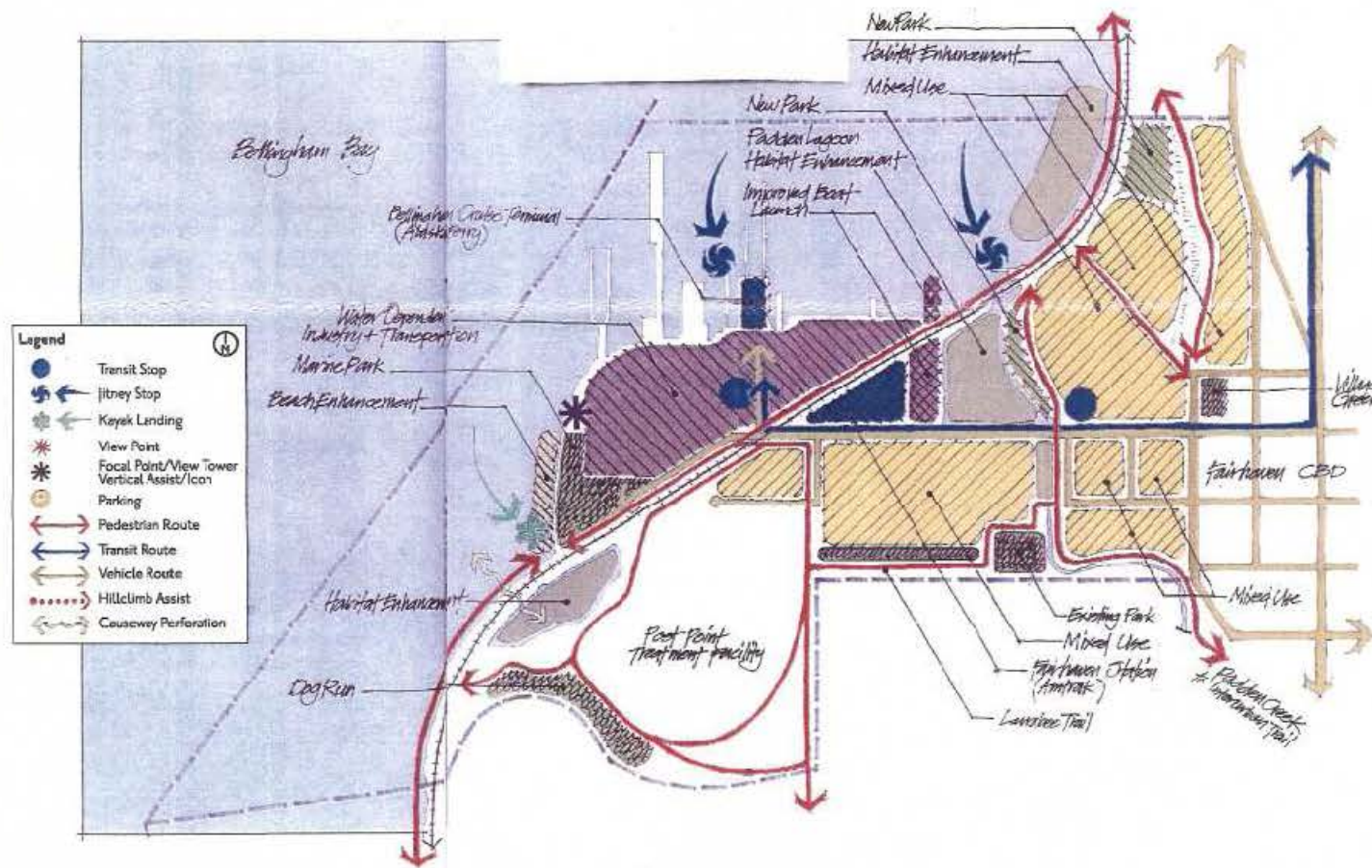
# Marine shoreline

- Shoreline Master Program
- Waterfront Futures Group
- SMP – Buffers vs. Jurisdiction





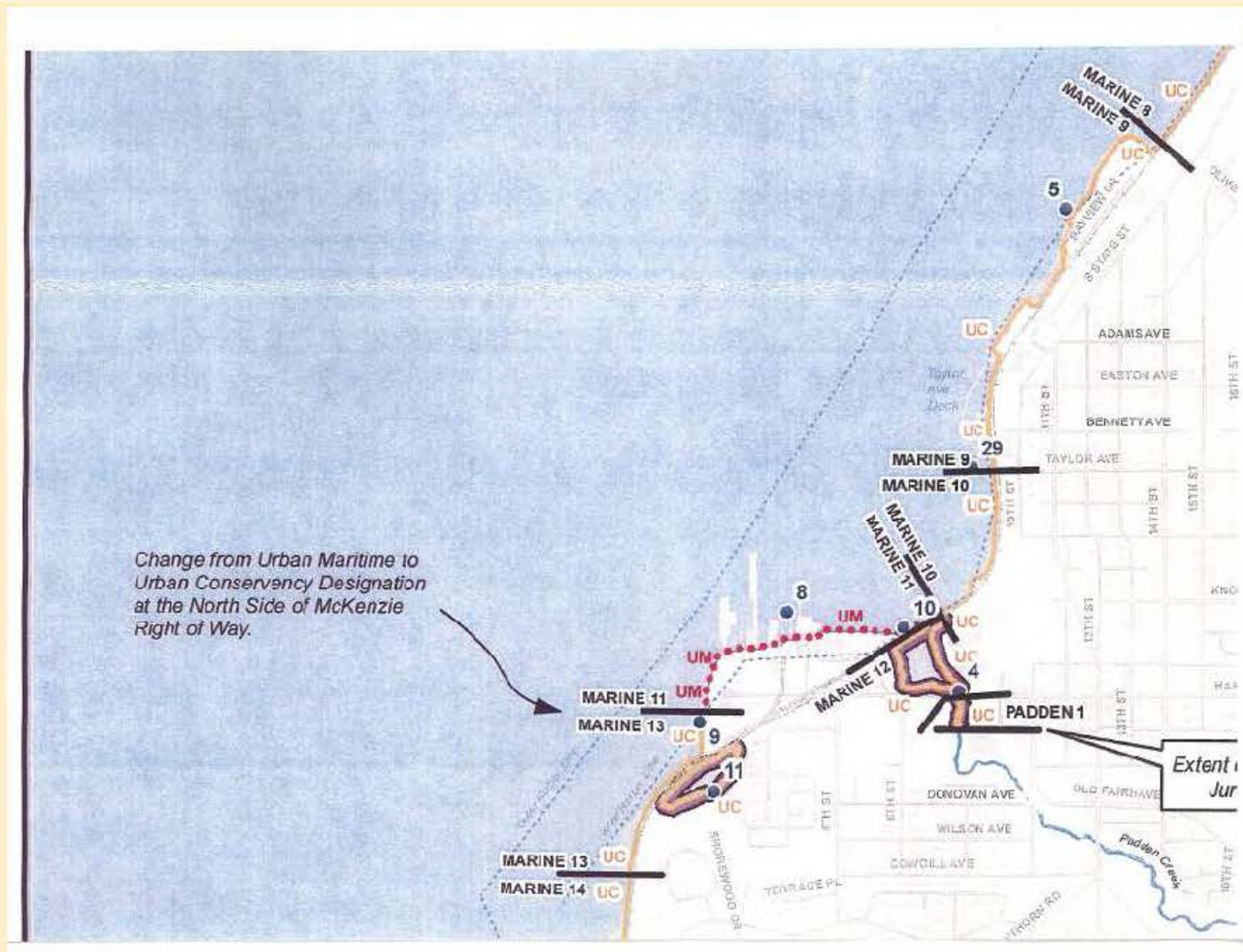
# Waterfront Futures Group



Waterfront Vision & Framework Plan

Waterfront Futures Group Final Recommendations

# Shoreline Master Program





# Port of Bellingham



# Critical Areas

- Wildlife habitat
  - Post Point Great Blue Heron colony
  - Bald eagle
  - Lagoon
- Wetlands







Photo by A. Eissinger

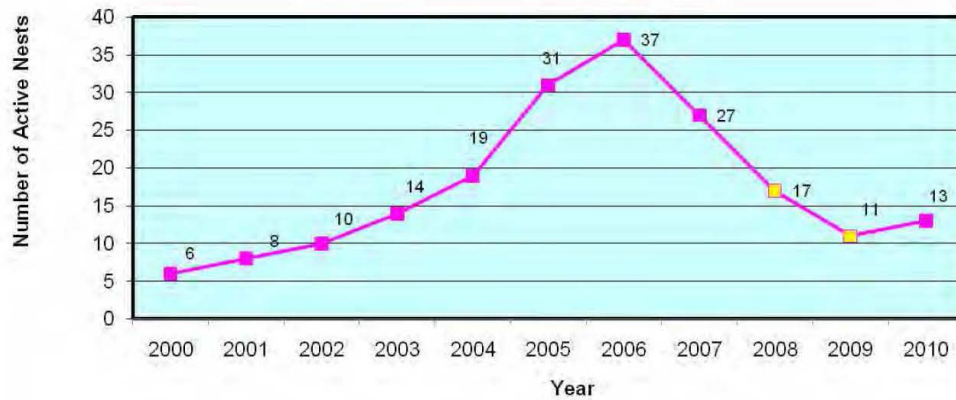


Photo by Alan Fritzberg

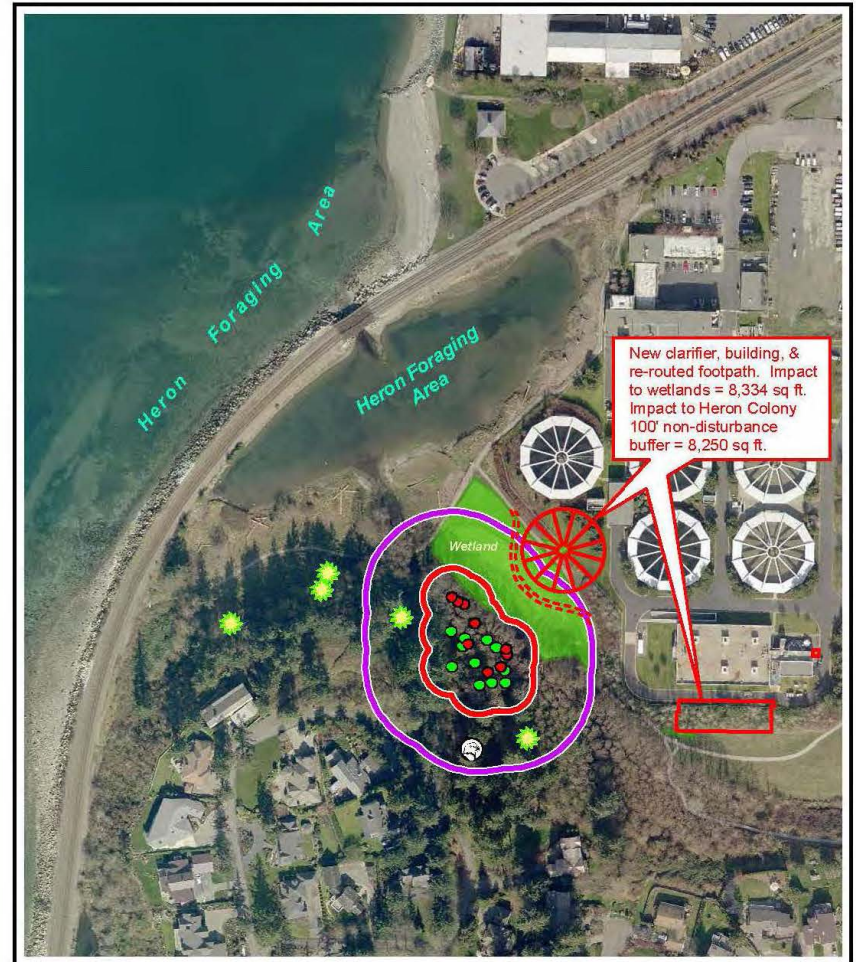


# Post Point Herons

Post Point Heron Colony Trend 2000-2010

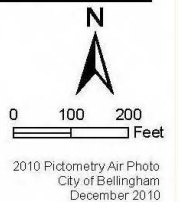


note: 2008-2009 colony failure - no fledged young



## KEY:

- 2010 Active Nest Trees
- Previous Nest Trees
- ★ Roost Area
- Bald Eagle's Nest Observed in Fir Tree
- Colony Core Area
- 100ft Non-Disturbance Buffer



# Padden Creek



- Salmon
- Water quality
- Day Lighting



# Parks and Trails – History and Future

- 3-way hub – history of trail planning
- Vision for South Bay Trail
- Future capital investments
- Padden Creek Estuary – city reclamation project
- Future – improving connections to the waterfront



### Legend

## ----- Dirt Paths

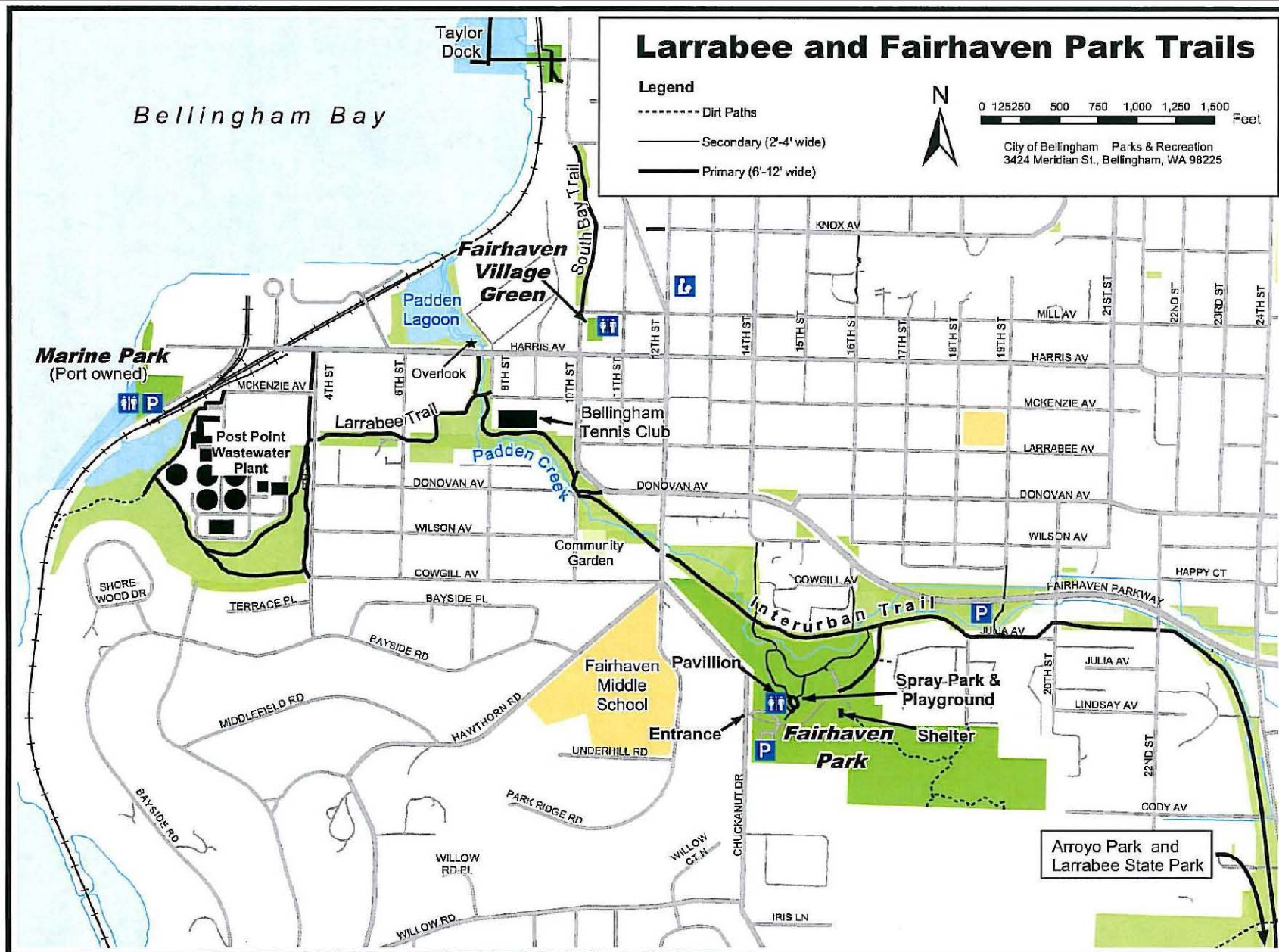
———— Secondary (2'-4' wide)

———— Primary (6'-12' wide)



0 125 250 500 750 1,000 1,250 1,500 Feet

City of Bellingham Parks & Recreation  
3424 Meridian St., Bellingham, WA 98225



# Re-group and share findings

8:00 p.m.





# Next Meetings

- May 25                      Historic Resources and Fairhaven Design Review District
- June 8 and 22          Village Core Regulations

[www.cob.org/fairhaven](http://www.cob.org/fairhaven)

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