



**Fw: Redline draft Fairhaven Neighborhood Plan - Review and Comments on Natural Environment , Parks, Recreation and Open Space**

**SUSAN KAUN** to: NOLiver

12/03/2010 01:02 PM

History:

This message has been replied to and forwarded .

Nicole: My computer has been on the fritz the past few days, so I don't know if you ever received the specific comments I made to the Fairhaven Neighbors Board after my review of the Staff Review Copy, October 2010.

The following are my comments on the Draft Fairhaven Neighborhood Plan Update: Environment Section. If you've already received this, please ignore.

Thanks, Sue

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [SUSAN KAUN](#)

**To:** [Vince Biciunas](#) ; [Paul James](#) ; [Stuart Plotnick](#) ; [Janet Simpson](#) ; [David Carlsen](#) ; [McGlothlin Carolyn](#) ; [Elinor Pravda](#) ; [Glenn Denkler](#) ; [Prichard Thom](#) ; [Brooks Anderson](#) ; [Larry Kimmet](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 1:35 PM

**Subject:** Re: Redline draft Fairhaven Neighborhood Plan - Review and Comments on Natural Environment, Parks, Recreation and Open Space  
Dear Larry and Board of Fairhaven Neighbors:

As one of the neighbors who participated in preparing two of the sections of the 2007 Fairhaven Neighborhood Plan Update Proposal, I've reviewed the changes proposed by City staff in the Natural Environment, Parks, Recreation and Open Space section, located on pages 3-15, and would like to offer the following comments and suggestions:

### **Natural Environment, Parks, Recreation and Open Space**

#### **Page 3: see comments and suggestions A) through E) below:**

A) (FNEG)-1: Staff note: "It's not clear what is intended by monitor the natural areas in the neighborhood". My comment: The word monitor is defined in my dictionary as : to watch closely, keep track of".

Therefore, in the interest of clarity, I suggest (FNEG)-1 be changed to:

*The Fairhaven Neighborhood will work closely with the City of Bellingham and the Port of Bellingham to watch closely and keep track of the natural areas in the neighborhood."*

B) FNEG-4: suggested changes: Agree

C) FNEG-6: suggested changes for FNEG#1-FNEG-6 should be policies. Agree

D) "Also note that City does not currently have the staff to address all of these issues, and may create unrealistic expectations in the neighborhood." Disagree and disregard.

I suggest the Plan should be looking far into the future, and one can always hope there will be enough staff to meet the hopes and dreams of the neighborhood.

#### **Natural Areas and Open Space Assets:**

E) paragraph 2 suggested changes: Agree

#### **Page 4: see comments and suggestions F) through I) below:**

F) paragraph 2 suggested changes: Agree

G) paragraph 3 suggested changes: Agree

H) A. Freshwater - PADDEN CREEK - suggested changes: Agree

I) paragraph 4: deletion of wording: Agree. It is a duplication.

#### **Page 5: see comments and suggestions J) through L) below:**

J) paragraph 3 crossed out and staff note: FNEP-1 reads more like a capital facilities project recommendation or action item than a statement of policy. Agree.

Suggest using staff underlined language, except the statement should begin with "*Remove brick tunnel and 'daylight' Padden Creek to provide.....*" (as a number of readers may not understand the term 'daylight').

Agree this section should be moved to Capital Facilities 7. DRAINAGE (STORMWATER)

K) Also in the same staff Note, the statement that "the daylighting project was the genesis of the City's stormwater fee is not accurate according to

Public Works, Stormwater and Environmental Resources staff." I disagree with staff.

My research indicates the genesis of the stormwater fee was:

1. an agreement between the City Council and the Padden Creek Alliance, culminating in COB Resolution 45-98, which states: the Padden Creek Alliance, neighborhood, community and environmental organizations have invested many hours and days in bringing the project (daylighting the Padden Creek Tunnel) to its present state of development, and the Resolution further states: "The City will contribute the majority of funds necessary for the purpose of developing a Comprehensive Feasibility Study....."
2. which resulted in the City of Bellingham Storm and Surface Water Utility Funding Strategy, prepared for COB, Dept of Public Works, August 2000, by CH2MHill, which included the daylighting of Padden Creek as a proposed funded project;
3. which led to Ordinance No. 2001-02-007," An Ordinance of the City of Bellingham, Washington, amending Chapters 2.56, 15.04, 15.08, 15.12 and 15.16 of the Bellingham Municipal Code, establishing a Storm and Surface Water Utility Service Rate....."
4. which led to the project's engineering report, Padden Creek Daylighting Project, December 2001, by R.W. Beck, Steven J. Swenson, Project Manager.

L) Paragraph 6: FNEP-2 , staff proposed new language for both paragraphs. Agree.

**Page 6, comments and suggestions M) through Q) below:**

M) FNEP-3: Suggest using FNEP-3, but change to read as follows:

*FNEP-3: "The comprehensive watershed stormwater drainage plan should be implemented to restore the natural flow and water quality in Padden Creek, and to alleviate flooding of streets and businesses in Fairhaven Village."*

Staff suggestion to add a goal statement indicating the neighborhood's desire to work with the City and other neighborhoods to improve Padden Creek water quality. Agree

The 2007 Stormwater Comprehensive Plan, was prepared unbeknownst to me. I'll check into it.)

N) Paragraph 5: Staff suggested changes: Agree

O) FNEP-4: Suggest keeping language as is, and disregard the Note by staff.

P) Paragraph 7: Per staff Note: Suggest changing sentence as follows: "*Implementing the comprehensive watershed stormwater drainage plan (see FNEA-1) will be necessary to restore and protect the remaining riparian area along the sides of the creek, by removing point source details.*"

Q. I'm confused. Was the new Stormwater Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2009 or 2007, per staff Note under FNEP-3?

**Page 7, comments and suggestions R) through U) below:**

R) FNEP-5 could be restated per staff Note: "*Riparian areas along each side of Padden Creek from Lake Padden to Harris Avenue should be preserved, and purchased if possible, by the City of Bellingham to protect and enhance the existing corridor for wildlife.*"

S) staff Note: "The area known as Padden Lagoon is being changed to Padden Estuary in City documents and maps." Agree.

T) paragraph 5: correct to read: "The portion of the Padden Creek Estuary, located north....." Agree with other revisions.

U) paragraph 6 and 7: revisions for accuracy. Agree.

**Page 8, comments and suggestions, V) through Y) below:**

V) paragraph 2, 3, 4 : suggested revisions. Agree.

W) FNEP-7 Staff Note. Disagree. Port already owns riparian areas around the Padden Creek Lagoon area, and the City owns 8th Street on the East side of the Padden Creek Estuary from Harris to McKenzie Ave. "Waterfront Futures Action Plan states: Preserve the 8th Street right-of-way for native vegetation as a transition to adjacent development."

X) FNEP-7 Staff Note: "It's not clear where the term 'at risk' came from. The term 'at risk' is used extensively in the Reference list of best available science, #21, Regional Nearshore and Marine Aspects of Salmon Recovery in Puget Sound, Compiled and edited by Scott Redman, Doug Myers, and Dan Averill, Puget Sound Action Team, From contributions by the editors and Kurt Fresh and Bill Graeber, NOAA Fisheries, Delivered to Shared Strategy for Puget Sound for inclusion in their regional salmon recovery plan, June 28, 2005.

Y) paragraph 6: staff suggestions. Agree.

**Page 9, comments and suggestions, Z) through BB) below:**

Z) paragraph 2, PNEP-8. Staff Note. Agree, remove section as redundant.

E. OPEN SPACE - POST POINT OPEN SPACE

AA) Staff Note, and suggested revision. Agree

BB) paragraph 6, 7: Staff suggestions. Agree

**Page 10, comments and suggestions, CC) through GG) below:**

CC) paragraph 1, FNEP-11 Staff suggestions. Agree.

DD) paragraph 2: At the time this was written in 2007, it was correct. However, since that time Parks Dept staff has listened to our concerns and now pays careful attention to problems along the trails in the neighborhood. Therefore, the statement should be removed.

EE) paragraph 3: Staff Note: Actually residents and staff now work closely to identify trail problems, and staff has been diligent in restoring creek shoreline. Suggest language should be changed to reflect this new dynamic.

FF) paragraphs 4 and 5: Staff suggested changes. Agree.

SOUTH BELLINGHAM BAY OVERLOOK

GG) In 2007 this item was found in the Park Department's Comprehensive Plan, Fairhaven Section. If it's located between Douglas Ave and Boulevard Park, is probably isn't in our neighborhood. Remove.

**Page 11, comments and suggestions HH) below:**

HH) paragraph 3, FNEP-16: Staff Note: Suggest leaving wording as is. We can always hope the projects will be included someday.

**Page 12, comments and suggestions II) through JJ) below:**

II) paragraph 3: Staff suggestions. Agree

JJ) paragraph 8: Staff suggestions. Agree

**Page 13, comments and suggestions, KK) through MM) below:**

KK) paragraph 2, FNEP-21. Staff Note. Disagree. Until the land next to the

library is used for other purposes, we can still ask for acquisition of the property for public purposes.

LL) paragraph 4, FNEP-22. Staff suggested additions. Agree

MM) Staff Note: "references should be placed in an appendix." Agree. But I disagree with the fact that only staff generated or reviewed science should be included. And, I cannot imagine why they lined out study #9. My understanding of best available science is that the newer report indicated by Reference List item #K adds to the science, but does not delete it, unless the science was incorrect.

**Page 14-15 see MM) above:**

Many thanks for this opportunity to comment on the City's review of the Fairhaven Neighborhood Draft Plan. I will send my comments on the Capital Improvement Section, after I've completed my review.

Kind regards,

Sue

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [lee@silverlink.net](mailto:lee@silverlink.net)

**To:** [Vince BiÅ□iÅ«nas](#) ; [James Paul](#) ; [Plotnick Stuart](#) ; [Simpson Janet](#) ; [David Carlsen](#) ; [McGlothlin Carolyn](#) ; [Pravda Elinor](#) ; [Glenn Denkler](#) ; [Prichard Thom](#) ; [SUSAN KAUN](#) ; [Brooks Anderson](#)

**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2010 6:57 PM

**Subject:** Redline draft Fairhaven Neighborhood Plan

Hi Everyone,

The Plan is out. Please look at it on the City's web site as soon as possible and bring your observations to the special Board meeting at Vince's house next Friday Nov. 19th.

Larry

<http://www.cob.org/services/neighborhoods/community-planning/neighborhoodplanning/npas/2008/2008-n1-fairhaven.aspx>.