

**Lisa Clausen**

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**From:** Public Council Inbox  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 4:21 PM  
**To:** 'Gary Christianson'  
**Subject:** RE:

Mr. Christianson,

Thank you for your email. It will be made a part of the Correspondence for the Record and will be included in the next Council agenda packet.

Janet S.

**From:** Gary Christianson [mailto:garychr@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 1:23 PM  
**To:** Susan Coles  
**Cc:** Public Council Inbox  
**Subject:**

To:  
Members of the Burien Planning Commission  
Members of the Burien City Council

From Gary Christianson  
15625 Maplewild Ave. SW  
Burien, WA 98166  
March 29, 2010

I'm writing to express my continued concern about the process the city is engaged in to update the Shoreline Master Program. First, the process itself – the Planning Commission has not responded to a petition with hundreds of signatures asking that the process be slowed down so all important issues can be given due consideration with input from affected citizens. Instead the Commission has stepped up its schedule, and even held a meeting at which important decisions were made with only three Commission members present (March 16).

My primary concern is the proposed language in the SMP relating to marine shoreline bulkheads. Letters have been written, testimony given, solutions suggested, and alternative language offered, which as near as I can tell has been largely ignored. Many shoreline owners are concerned that if their bulkheads were damaged or destroyed they would not be able to repair or replace them unless the absence of a bulkhead would result in a primary residence falling into the water. State law, unlike Burien's proposed SMP Update, provides for bulkheads to protect "appurtenances" and "legally existing shoreline uses" in addition to protecting primary residences.

The SMP update fails to make clear that owners will be able to repair their bulkheads. This is essential to preserving the value of our properties and being responsible homeowners. To not be able to do so would seriously reduce the value of many shoreline properties. If the Planning Commission this week wraps up what it and city staff consider to be its responsibility in this process I would respectfully ask that the City Council take the time to listen to and address all citizens' concerns when it takes up the SMP Update.

Thank you,  
Gary Christianson

*CFTR: 04/12/10*

