

Lisa Clausen

From: Public Council Inbox
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 2010 4:38 PM
To: 'ericdenton@comcast.net'
Subject: RE: Shoreline Management Plan

Thank you for your message to the Burien City Council. It will be included in the Correspondence for the Record for an upcoming Council meeting.

L. Clausen
City Manager's Office

From: ericdenton@comcast.net [mailto:ericdenton@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 2010 12:30 PM
To: Public Council Inbox
Subject: Shoreline Management Plan

I want to thank the Council for the opportunity that you gave me last evening to present my views on this subject. I hope that you can find time to read the two-page letter that I left with you that does a far better job than my talk.

On another note, I am looking for someone in the 'Puget Sound Partnership' that might be an expert witness for you on the real problems with the health of the Sound. I will advise, when and if I locate that person. Eric Denton

cc. please to City Manager Mike Martin

ASTR : 05/10/10

Handwritten text at the top of the page, possibly a header or title, which is mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.

Second line of handwritten text, appearing as a separate paragraph or section.

Third line of handwritten text, continuing the narrative or list.

Fourth line of handwritten text, showing more detail or a specific entry.

Fifth line of handwritten text, possibly a concluding sentence or signature.

The bottom half of the page contains several lines of very faint handwritten text, which are difficult to decipher but appear to be a continuation of the document's content.

From: Eric Denton

May 3, 2010

An Appeal to the Burien City Council in Regard to Shoreline Management

My wife and I live at 2423 S.W. 172nd Street and own 55 feet of waterfront property. We have lived there for exactly fifty years. We consider its' value to be a huge percentage of our net worth and to be the resource that will see us through the declining years of our retirement. We see the Shoreline Management Plan to be a drastic threat to the value of our property. We see it as a plan to change the rules, without proper consideration of the rights of those who already live there.

We both recognize that as times change, there are actions that need to be taken along the way to protect the environment or to allow increased public access to the beaches. We have no problem with those broad objectives. But, this Shoreline Plan is a 'shotgun' approach to solving the perceived problems. People that were probably well meaning, but also misinformed, must have written it.

First, the people who live right on the beaches are the ones who protect the environment and who act a WARDENS to assure that protection. We are prepared to present evidence to prove that that is the case. Also, it is our strong belief that most of the problems with Puget Sound are caused by the introduction of nutrients from sewage outfalls. The elimination of septic tanks just passed the problem downstream. This nutrient buildup is where the focus must be to save Puget Sound.

Second, when more public access is needed, and we agree that it is needed, then the Municipalities should play by the rules. They must use their rights of Eminent Domain to purchase waterfront property at fair market value, not values that have been downgraded by changing the rules.

On our 200 feet of upland we have nurtured a green belt, with a half dozen large Redwood trees along with large Fir, Hemlock and Madrona. Our house is down within twelve feet of our bulkhead. To prevent slides we maintain large Rhododendrons and other shrubs along the top of the forty-foot high bank behind the house. On the waterside we, along with many of our neighbors, have been outstanding wardens of the beach

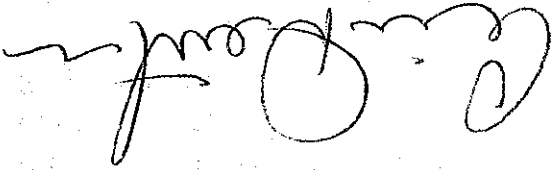
ecology. We protect all forms of wildlife, from resident birds and animals to migrating ones. We maintain a raft year-round as a sanctuary for birds and young mammals. I very recently found out that my testimony in year 2002 to the Department of Ecology was instrumental in forcing the Port of Seattle to spend almost seven million dollars to build a treatment facility to protect Millar Creek from run-off due to the 3rd runway construction.

Back to the Real Issue: It appears to us that the Shoreline Plan has originated at the STATE level and needs to be corrected at that level by the Municipalities acting together. Instead of allowing the State of Washington to impose their will on each City separately, why can't the City of Burien join with Des Moines, Normandy Park and others to solve the problem where the problem exists? It is certainly not fair to our City Council to be caught 'between a rock and a hard place' - - with displeased citizens on one side and the State on the other!

In their zealous efforts to protect life, it is a matter of record that the good intentions of organizations like OSHA and the DOE have caused great economic harm along with the good. A balance must be struck and very often is not, and certainly it has not been the case with this Shoreline Plan under consideration.

Lets work together to protect life and property as well as the economy.

Sincerely,
Eric Denton, P.E. & Chem. E.



Phone: 206-242-8073
E-mail: ericdenton@comcast.net

The above comments are entirely our own and do not represent any organization. We did however, recently join the Waterfront Owners Trust group in order to improve our understanding of the situation.