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MAY 26 2010

CITY OF BURIEN

To: Burien City Council
From: Jim Sudduth, 2419 SW 172nd Street (residence)
Subject: Shoreline Master Program
Date: May 23, 2010

Dear Council Members:

I have been a resident of the Three Tree Point neighborhood since 1964 and purchased the above property in 1972. Over the following 38 years I have paid \$154,147 in property taxes (not adjusted for inflation). The house was 30-40 years old when I first moved in, and like my aging body, requires continuous maintenance. The house is about ten feet (horizontally) from the high water mark, with the narrow deck extending to within about three feet.

The Shoreline Master Program appears to unleash a bureaucratic nightmare of ecological studies, permits, public hearings and appeals whenever maintenance or minor improvements are needed. Apparently I would need a Substantial Development Permit to plant a non-native rose bush.

The entire tone of the SMP implies that the goal is to restore waterfront property to its pre 1492 configuration. If this a desirable goal for waterfront property, then I believe it would be equally desirable for Town Square. One of the stated goals is to promote "...no net loss of ecological functions and processes." (Whatever that means.) Does a rose bush result in such a loss? What is the ecological function of my home?

I believe that we can avoid a nightmare of lunacy and litigation by making a **clear and specific** exemption for property that has already been developed and occupied. I urge the council members to consider how they would react if faced with such vague, Kafkaesque regulations imposed on their homes.

Sincerely,



Jim Sudduth

224 SW 153rd St., Suite 139, Burien, WA 98166

206-244-7443

jimmmm@comcast.net

CFTR: 06/07/10

