

Aug 2, 2010

Thank you for this opportunity to speak tonight.

My name is Bob Tacy. I'm the son-in-law of Robert and Robbie Howell, who live on Lake Burien. I disclose this to let you know that although they are family, it's my love of nature and my passion for the environment that I'm here tonight.

I have visited the Howell's often over the last 10 years and have always been impressed with the way most, if not all of the residents take care of their homes, property... and most of all the lake. Without outside assistance or regulation they have been careful not to pollute or disrupt the natural habitat that provides for a large cross-section of wild-life. They agreed voluntarily not to allow gas powered water craft that can pollute the water. The shoreline of the lake is free of debris and trash. They are proactive, vigilant to potential threats and responsive to them. Lake Burien is simply a pristine lake that supports much wild-life.

We have a lake near our home in Puyallup – Bradley Lake Park. When we first moved to Puyallup in 2001, the park was undeveloped. Only a few people walked the dirt and gravel path around the lake. The lake water was fresh and clean. There were fish, Eagles and other wild-life both in and around the lake. A number of years ago the park was expanded and further developed. Hundreds more people visit every day. The result is, although the park is bigger and can serve more people... the lake is so polluted that wadding is not even allowed. The birds of prey have disappeared, we seldom even see ducks. You can find trash and litter along the shoreline. The park is nice... but the lake itself has been abused to the point that it's just for looking at. The shoreline is over-run with families of Geese who defecate both in and around the lake.

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I share my observations because when I visit the Howell's home I enjoy looking at water that is clear enough to see several feet down. I see the turtles sunning themselves on the logs along the shore. I watch several species of ducks eating from the lake, chasing small minnows that are down the food chain for the larger fish in the lake, fish that can often be seen jumping, usually around sunset. The lake is also a food source for several species of birds of prey, including Eagles and Osprey. About a month ago I was fortunate enough to see one swoop down and take a fish from the lake, then fly back to its nest in one of the large trees that surround the lake.

In this day and age we are being told by government and environmentalists that one of the most important things we must do is to save our environment... save our planet. Wild life, ducks, turtles and birds of prey are all dependent on their habitat for survival. Lake Burien is a vital, thriving ecosystem for dozens of species.

I sincerely believe that having hundreds more people using this beautiful lake on a daily basis will damage this natural habitat in the short term... and destroy it long term. It would seem prudent to have respected environmentalists study the lake and get their professional input before changing anything.

As I understand it, Lake Burien has been taken care of by the homeowners going back more than a hundred years. It appears they've proven to be good Stewards of the lake and its entire eco system. I hope all of you will put the environment ahead of any other agenda you may be considering and let Lake Burien remain the healthy, relatively undisturbed habitat that so many species rely upon.

Thank you very much.

**Bob Tacy, Jr.
8416 133rd St. E., Puyallup, WA 98373**

RECEIVED

To: The Burien City Council

August 2, 2010 AUG 02 2010

Subject: The Proposed Burien Shoreline Management Plan
Reference: E. Denton letter to the City Council dated May 3, 2010

CITY OF BURIEN

Dear Council Members,

As we reach this last opportunity for public comments to the proposed Shoreline Plan I want to take one more opportunity to speak to you.

FIRST, I want to thank you very much for the modifications that you have already made to the original Planning Commission document. This has shown your collective willingness to consider facts and to act responsibly and reasonably. I give you an 'A' for that effort.

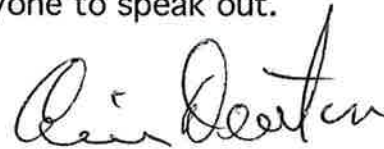
I have listened carefully to the individual comments that each of you have made during these many meetings and I have been very impressed with the consideration and reason that you each have already shown for the many issues involved with this Shoreline Plan.

There is still work to be done. I am aware that the City staff has recommended against the 20 foot setback and in favor of stringent vegetation requirements. These recommendations **make no sense**.

I ask that you ignore these staff recommendations, because I am almost certain that they will have little, if any, favorable impact on Puget Sound and will only be another example of unnecessary burdens placed on a significant number of citizens. You have already heard, and even commented on, the weak arguments from the D.O.E. Don't let Burien set another example of environmental regulations running wild.

Thank you very much for giving us this opportunity to testify. We are so thankful that we live in a society that allows everyone to speak out.

Sincerely,



Eric Denton P.E.

ps. As a token of our appreciation for your hard work we want council members to accept a remarkable photograph taken of a pair of creatures that occupied our wildlife raft last year. They could almost be an undiscovered species.

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