



City Council Agenda Bill

20262

Bill Number

Subject: An update to the 2008 Parks Recreation and Open Space Plan (PRO Plan) / Chapter 7 of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan.

Summary Statement: The Parks and Recreation Department has been working on an update to the Park, Recreation and Open Space (PRO) Plan, an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The last full PRO Plan update was in 2008. RCW 79A.25.120 requires local agencies to submit an updated PRO Plan every six years to remain eligible for grants under the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing and work session in November 2013 and has recommended approval of the Plan, with minor amendments, (7-0 vote). The Plan has also been recommended for approval by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, which oversaw the update process. An approved update must be submitted to the State by March 3, 2014.

Previous Council Action: Public Hearing held January 13, 2014. Staff updates in March and October, 2013.

Fiscal Impact: Revenue assumptions and estimated expenditures for full implementation are set forth on page 56 of the Plan. Individual projects are brought forward in the annual Capital Facilities Plan for budget consideration.

Funding Source:

Attachments: Materials from the January 13, 2014 City Council Public Hearing are available at www.cob.org Resolution

Memo from Lilliquist to Linville & King Dated 1/13/14
Public Hearing Notice
Written Comment to City Council since 1/13/14

Meeting Activity	Meeting Date	Staff Recommendation	Presented By	Time
Committee Briefing Council Vote Requested	27-Jan-2014	Pass Resolution	Leslie Bryson, Parks & Recreation	10 min

Council Committee:

Parks & Recreation

Roxanne Murphy, Chair
Pinky Vargas; Jack Weiss

Committee Actions:

Agenda Bill Contact:

Katie Franks, PCD, 778-8388

Reviewed By	Initials	Date
Jeff Thomas, PCD Director	<i>JT</i>	1-22-2014
James King, Parks Director	<i>JK/BA</i>	1/22/14

Legal
Mayor

JAM 1/22/14
KW/BA 1/22/14

Council Action:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON ADOPTING AN
UPDATED 2014 PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE PLAN.**

WHEREAS, the City Council last adopted a City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan in 2008; and,

WHEREAS, an updated Parks, Recreation, and Open Space plan is required by state and federal agencies in order to qualify for parks and recreation funds;

WHEREAS, the 2008 Plan was included as an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan; and,

WHEREAS, since the 2008 Plan was adopted, there have been extensive improvements in the City's Parks and Recreation system, fulfilling many of the recommendations made in the 2008 Plan; and,

WHEREAS, in order to update the Plan, community meetings were held and community surveys completed as part of the public process to identify future parks and recreation needs; and,

WHEREAS, an updated 2014 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (the "Updated Plan") has been developed; and,

WHEREAS, the planning process was overseen by the Bellingham Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, serving as the citizen steering committee, and has provided extensive input, evaluation and comment; and,

WHEREAS, the Bellingham Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Updated Plan on November 7, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the Bellingham City Council held a public hearing on the Updated Plan on January 13, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, prior to the scheduled 2016 City Comprehensive Plan Update, there will be additional public hearings and further opportunity for review and revision of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Chapter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

THAT, the 2014 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein, is hereby adopted as the City's updated Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan.

PASSED by City Council this ____ day of _____, 2014.

Council President

APPROVED by me this ____ day of _____, 2014.

Mayor

Attest:

Finance Director

Approved as to Form:

Office of the City Attorney

To: Mayor Kelli Linville; Parks Director James King
From: Michael Lilliquist, City Council member
CC: City Council members
Date: January 13, 2014

Re. **Questions and Issues regarding the draft Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PRO) Plan**

I. Major Issue: Level of Service (LOS) Quantity versus Quality

Level of Service (LOS) should be in terms of indicators of accessibility, availability, and proximity. The City of Bellingham has made a Strategic Commitment to “ensure convenient access and availability of parks and trails citywide.” Our goal should be expressed equally in terms of location, rather than just quantity. In fact, *quantity* is not a Strategic Commitment; *access* is. Unfortunately, the PRO plan repeatedly boils down LOS to a measure of quantity, specifically acres per 1000 residents. By doing so, we are measuring and managing and potentially delivering the wrong thing.

The guiding purpose of the PRO should not be to provide “more” parks and trails, but to provide them in all parts of town equitably. This requires that direct measures of *distance, proximity, and location* to be primary metrics that are monitored and managed. Measuring acreage does not allow this. The ½ mile service radius – which is a start in this direction – is not actually reflected in any rigorous, systematic, or quantitative fashion. It could be and it should be.

A quick look at a map of Bellingham parks quickly reveals that the majority of acreage is to be found in a few large Community Parks, with one single park constituting nearly 1/3 of all park and open space acreage (Lake Padden Park and Golf Course). By using a citywide total – and a citywide ratio – the PRO depends upon a skewed and misleading indicator. Moreover, by using this single questionable number as the primary indicator of LOS, future spending plans are also tied to the single number. The draft plan doubles-down on error.

The draft PRO admits that measuring LOS this way has recognized limitations and flaws (p. 23 of the draft), and even suggests alternatives. Nonetheless, Chapter 4 is almost entirely devoted to following the flawed logic of acres/1000, particularly in terms of estimating both public and private (impact fees) costs. Financial planning is based almost exclusively on this acreage number, which serves to confuse means and ends. Our goal is not to have a certain dollar-value of parks, but rather to have enough parks in the right places. If we focus on this outcome, we might actually find ways to achieve it for a lower cost.

What is the difference between the population ratio methodology and a community-based ratio (bottom of p.23)? How do we use a community based ratio? What is the relationship of this “community ratio” to the ½ mile service radius for neighborhood parks?

The introduction to Chapter 4 says that there is a distinct LOS for neighborhood parks – 1 acre per 1,000 people – that is not explained well. Are there similar LOS for community parks, and for open space, and for trails? I think this may be found in the bottom part of Table 4.5.1, but there are missing labels and the text never makes it clear. The table, if I read it correctly, says that our LOS for neighborhood parks is half the NRPA standard, while our community park standard is double, and our trails LOS is triple the NRPA. This deserves discussion. Moreover, some or most of the difference is undoubtedly due to Lake Padden park skewing the numbers.

Measuring LOS in terms of acreage has serious implications both in terms of public and private costs. Expressed as acreage, the City is committed to spending funds to acquire and develop significant amounts of real property, when we know that we our resources are already strained to maintain and develop our existing parks and trails. LOS is a capital commitment, and it needs to be evaluated as such.

Q. How was the figure of ½ mile chosen as a service radius? Are we assuming walking or driving?

The distance as a crow flies ignores realities on the ground, which govern true accessibility. Why not use a *10-minute walking distance* (typical walking speed is 3 mph, which covers a half mile in ten minutes)? I know we can calculate walking time: I have seen it done for other city planning efforts. Moreover, a walking distance calculation would be able to take into account the fact that major arterials and I-5 act as barriers to accessibility. Distance “as a crow flies” does not take this into account.

II. Other Issues and Questions

A. Why is development of Van Wyck Park a level 2 priority rather than level 1? It's mentioned alongside the Cornwall Beach area, yet planning for that park has already started. Why isn't Van Wyck on the northside a higher priority?

What is the planning horizon for level 2 projects, and how much attention will level 2 projects receive on next 10 years or so?



BELLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225
Telephone (360) 778-8200 Fax (360)778-8101
Email: ccmail@cob.org Website: www.cob.org

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Bellingham City Council will hold a public hearing on **January 13, 2014 @ 7:00 PM**, or as soon thereafter as possible, in the **City Council Chambers, City Hall, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington**, to take public comment on the following:

UPDATE OF THE 2008 PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN
(PRO PLAN) / CHAPTER 7 OF THE BELLINGHAM COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

Detailed information can be found at: <http://www.cob.org/government/departments/parks/projects/pro-plan.aspx>

Staff Contact: Katie Franks, Development Specialist II, (360) 778-8388 or kfranks@cob.org

Anyone wishing to comment on this topic is invited to attend; or if unable to attend, to send your comments, in writing to the Council Office, 210 Lottie Street, or email to ccmail@cob.org, or fax to 778-8101, to be received prior to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 8, to be included in the agenda packet. Comment received after that time will be distributed to Council but not included in the published meeting materials.

FOR OUR CITIZENS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, the Council Chambers is fully accessible. Elevator access to the second floor is available at City Hall's west entrance. Hearing assistance is available and a receiver may be checked out through the clerk prior to the evening session. For additional accommodations, persons are asked to contact the Legislative Assistant at 778-8200 in advance of the meeting. Thank you.

Publication date: Friday, December 13, 2013

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SFleetwood@cob.org

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Geoffrey Middaugh <gbmiddaugh@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 11:32 AM
To: CC - Shared Department
Cc: King, James G.; Carlson, Ted A.; Bryson, Leslie B.; Franks, Kathryn E.; LaCroix, Renee S.; Heinrich, Brian M.; Haveman, Liz J.; 'Adrienne Lederer'; 'Anderson, Mike'; 'Bill Hasenjaeger'; burgleremerson@comcast.net; 'Colin Morris'; 'Dominique Zervas'; 'Matt Randall'; 'Pam Holladay'; 'Rosalie Nast'
Subject: PRO plan approval

To the Council, I wanted to emphasize the opportunity that the current PRO plan provides as it awaits your approval.

Through the thoughtful leadership and dedication of James King and Leslie Bryson, the document deserves your approval on January 13.

I want to point out how the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has been working hard on this document for a year. We have worked closely and provided thoughtful and balanced comment to this discussion, as well as attending numerous public meetings. We have saved the Parks Department (and the City) scarce financial resources by being closely involved with the skilled Parks Department Staff.

I believe this plan deserves your approval. This plan provides the appropriate level of social and environmental benefits, and will provide an excellent strategic document for planning and setting priorities into the future. It also gives direction towards continuing our work towards getting the appropriate mix of parks, recreation and open space opportunities on the north side of Bellingham. As you approve this plan, I hope in the future you also give consideration to the important financial needs (and grant opportunities) for parks on the north side of Bellingham, as well as along the waterfront.

Two general comments about future opportunities:

1. Approval of this plan provides a continuing opportunity for City of Bellingham **Departments** to work together to improve urban habitat, forests, watersheds, greenways and parks. An opportunity is available when the habitat restoration master plan is completed to have integrated direction on some complex urban restoration issues, rather than simply regulation and confusing, narrow, stove-piped direction. Urban ecosystems are too complex to depend on simple stove-piped regulations that place one issue over another. The social benefits of protecting the urban environment must be a consideration as well as just the ecological.
2. I suggest that when the Habitat restoration master plan comes for your approval, that this document as well as the PRO plan be considered to be consistent with your own Legacies. Both documents at time overuse the word "preservation" when used in the context of urban ecosystems when the word "protect" would be more precise.

The City's councils own Legacies uses the proper language and I suggest that when discussing restoring urban degraded ecological systems, the Council will follow your own lead for the wording for this restoration activity, and that is "protect" important ecological functions, and manage our important urban habitats.

The Council's language is as follow for a Healthy Environment:.

- Protect & improve the health of lakes, streams & bay
- Protect & restore ecological functions & habitat
- Reduce contributions to climate change

- Conserve natural & consumable resources

I see both Public Works and the Parks Department implementing programs to achieve this important protection and management. .

Although in our last meeting, the PRAB voted unanimously to recommend the PRO plan to you, these supportive comments are mine alone.

Thank you for the hard work you do for our city.

Geoff Middaugh

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: april baker <lirparesiak@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 12:46 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Comments for the public hearing Monday (city council)

Hello,

My name is April Barker. I am President of the Birchwood Neighborhood Association, Member of the MNAC committee and Member of the "Take Back Birchwood" Sub Committee.

Thank you to the Parks Department, Public Works, Planning Dept and City Council for all of your continued efforts to improve upon our open spaces, parks and trail systems.

I would like an addition be made to the 2008 Parks Recreation and Open space Plan. Best I can tell this plan does include continuing the Bay to Baker trail where it currently ends under the northwest coal mine bridge. I would like the plan to include a connection from the trail at this point to the intersection above. Here are reasons why this connection is important.

1. Currently the Bay to Baker Trail dead ends just under the Northwest Coal Mine Bridge. To date this space has been a congregating area to vagrants and others doing illegal activities. The only options for a trail goer is to try and scramble up the hillside through this population, turn back on the trail, or hop down to Squalicum way and continue there. Unfortunately non of these options give trail goers immediate access to help and or services if need.

2. People are congregating under the bridge because of its secluded nature. If there were a connection from the trail below to the neighborhood above, naturally the space under the bridge would become less secluded and hence less alluring for the current population inhabiting it.

3. Currently there is access to the trail system when traveling to other parks such as Cornwall from this well traveled intersection. Although with the current plan the bay to baker trail will be completed connecting the current dead end trail to meridian--our neighbors would have to travel south/east to Birchwood park (a substantial distance) in order to connect to the trail system heading east.

4. There has been a great effort to improve trails around Squalicum park and there is further plans to do more. However, the miles of trail from little Squalicum beach to just under NW bridge have only season access to restrooms and water at Squalicum Park for trail goers. This addition of a connection to the Bay to Baker Trail will provide access to services for trail goers between little Squalicum beach to Cornwall park. The current plan does not address any access to services and facilities along this long stretch of trail system.

Here is a link to the Master Plan

I am also asking that the connection from under the bridge to the top of the intersection become a priority in the 2008 plan. This because of the currently safety issue the trail currently presents. This is a trail that dead ends into a EXTREMELY unsafe area. Trail goers are left with hundreds of feet of trail and road between them and the next access for help or services. Please take these points into consideration. As I have discussed with Parks and Public Works our neighborhood businesses are willing to contribute funds toward this project if it will help improve its status on the list of projects.

Thank you,
April Barker
3127 birchwood ave
3603255128

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: janette kaiser <abbrd@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 1:18 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Request to add a project to the Recreation Master Plan

I would like to see the COB add a connection from the trails to the intersection at NW Ave and Birchwood Ave. This will provide trail goers access to Columbia and Birchwood Neighborhood Businesses and improve pedestrian and biking commuting to and from our neighborhoods. Reasons this connection is important

1. Currently the Bay to Baker Trail dead ends just under the Northwest Coal Mine Bridge. To date this space has been a congregating area to vagrants and others doing illegal activities. The only options for a trail goer is to try and scramble up the hillside through this population, turn back on the trail, or hop down to squalicum way and continue there. Unfortunately non of these options give trail goers immediate access to help and or services if need.
2. People are congregating under the bridge because of its secluded nature. If there were a connection from the trail below to the neighborhood above, naturally the space under the bridge would become less secluded and hence less alluring for the current population inhabiting it.
3. Currently there is access to the trail system when traveling to other parks such as cornwall from this well traveled intersection. Although with the current plan the bay to baker trail will be completed connecting the current dead end trail to meridian--our neighbors would have to travel south/east to birchwood park (a substantial distance) in order to connect to the trail system heading east.
4. There has been a great effort to improve trails around squalicum park and there is further plans to do more. However, the miles of trail from little squalicum beach to just under nw bridge have only season access to restrooms and water at Squalicum Park for trail goers. This addition of a connection to the Bay to Baker Trail will provide access to services for trail

|

users

between little squalicum beach to cornwall park. The current plan does not address any access to services and facilities along this long stretch of trail system.

I appreciate your consideration and action.

Janette Kaiser

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Diana Robinson <diana.runs@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 4:36 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Birchwood and Northwest Avenues

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to request a connection between the trail system below the Northwest Coal Mine Bridge to the intersection above. This would provide access to services as well as provide a more traveled area which would discourage the vagrants who live in this area (particularly under the bridge) nearly year round.

We live 1/2 mile from the intersection and are running, walking and or biking daily in our neighborhood which we LOVE, however there are times when we just do'n't feel safe.

We hope that you will get this in the Update to the 2008 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan. It is due time for the north side of Bellingham to have improvements in this area instead of more improvements to the south side.

Thank you very much for your consideration,
Steve & Diana Robinson
3126 Pinewood Avenue

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Meg Hayes <meg12@tryonhayes.com>
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 5:33 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Link between Northwest Ave Bridge and Bay to Baker Trail

I am writing as a walker, bicyclist, and homeowner on East Maplewood Ave. I heartily support the request to include a connection between the Northwest Ave. Bridge to the Bay-to-Baker Trail in the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. This is a much needed link between the dense residential area in the Birchwood Neighborhood and safe trails to the harbor area and downtown.

When I moved to Bellingham a year ago, I could not believe that there was no linkage between the bridge and the trail. I spent significant amounts of time peering at Google Earth, studying maps, and bushwacking in the neighborhood only to conclude that, in fact, there was not.

Now I hear that there is an opportunity to add this missing link to the Plan. I hope that you will do so. It is an essential part of the trail system, one that will encourage more use by those who regularly bicycle and walk in our neighborhood.

Thanks for your consideration,

Meg Hayes
1700 E. Maplewood Ave
Bellingham 98225
360-922-7065

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Rich Morgan <richmorganjr@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 11, 2014 5:48 AM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Trail updates

Hello

Would love to see a connection from the corner of Birchwood/Northwest intersection to the trail below included in the master plan. I would use it frequently if it were available.

Sincerely,
Rich Morgan
2804 Williams St.
Sent from my iPad

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: gretchen212 <gretchen212@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 11:53 AM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Northwest & Birchwood improvement

I support improvements to the Northwest & Birchwood Avenue intersection. it's a beautiful area but I would be afraid for myself or my daughters to walk from our home to the shops. pathways aren't clear and homeless people are everywhere.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Piper Mertle <pipermertle@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 11:54 AM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: trail/bridge connection

As a parent, resident and frequent user of the Birchwood & Columbia neighborhood trails for biking and walking, I'm writing regarding the update to the 2008 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan that happens every 6 years. Please include the connection of the trail system that is below the Northwest Coal Mine Bridge and its connection the the corner of Birchwood and Northwest Ave. as part of the update.

Sincerely,
Piper K Mertle

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: rebecca.schlotterback@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 12:34 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Cc: April Barker
Subject: Comments for City Council Meeting January 13, 2014: Update to Parks and Rec Plan
Chap 7
Attachments: CommenttoBellinghamCityCouncil01132014.pdf

Please see attached letter commenting on the update to Parks and Rec Plan Chapter 7 of Bellingham
Comprehensive Plan
Thank you
Rebecca Schlotterback

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: claudia hall <claudiaphall@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 12:38 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Update to 2008 Parks, recreation and open space plan

Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my interest in seeing the city **build a connection between the trail system below the northwest coal mine bridge to the intersection above.** Being an avid runner throughout the year as well as hiking with my children during mild days, this would be a great improvement to what is already a wonderful trail system. I have run through the homeless camps down there and, while, not fearing for my life, I definitely run a bit faster and will not take the kids through this area after the very last time I tried. **The trail abruptly ends and we had to find our way to the continuing trail.** I felt unsafe pushing the stroller through the remnants of a left behind camp. Building a trail system connection between these two points would seem like a small but very worthwhile effort to an extensive trail. Thank you for taking the time to read this and continuing to put resources into making Bellingham a leader in green space.

Claudia Hall
claudiaphall@gmail.com

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: SANDRA &/or BILL FITZGERALD <rev4wood@pacbell.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 2:27 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: CONNECTING BAY TO BAKER TRAIL TO STREET LEVEL FROM UNDER COAL MINE BRIDGE AT NORTHWEST AND CEDARWOOD REQUEST

PLEASE UPDATE THE 2008 PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN TO ALLOW A CONTINUATION OF THE BAY TO BAKER TRAIL UP TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD ABOVE FROM BELOW THE COAL MINE BRIDGE AT NORTHWEST AVE AT CEDARWOOD AVE. IT ENDS AT THE BOTTOM AND DOES NOT ALLOW CONVENIENT ACCESS TO MUCH OF THE BIRCHWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD.

ALSO, THE AREA UNDER THE BRIDGE IS CURRENTLY SECLUDED AND SO IT IS A CONGREGATING PLACE FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS TO SLEEP, ETC. THIS DETRACTS GREATLY FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AS THESE INDIVIDUALS ALSO HANG OUT IN THE AREA ABOVE THE BRIDGE.

SANDRA FITZGERALD
2720 BIRCHWOOD AVE
BELLINGHAM
707-337-4299

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Shannon Fuller <sabine_707@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 5:16 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Cc: MY - mayorsoffice@cob.org
Subject: Additions to the PRO Plan

Dear Mayor Linville and Bellingham City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the Park, and Recreation Open Space (PRO) Plan. As currently written the PRO plan does not address the chronic safety problem where the Bay to Baker Trail ends under the Northwest Ave Bridge. Currently, the trail ends surprisingly and suddenly under the bridge leaving the trail user in an isolated area where drug users and vagrants are known to congregate. This is a huge safety issue for trail users as there is literally nowhere to turn for help and the only choice is to return the way you came.

The area under the bridge is a huge safety issue for neighborhood residents and children who are walking to school since it provides a hiding place for an undesirable activities and behaviors. The bridge area and it's inhabitants also deters many people from utilizing businesses in the vicinity and prevents new, high quality businesses from locating there.

I am requesting the PRO plan include the following additions:

Section 7.3.3 Trails:

Priority 1

Develop a well lit stairway from Squalicum Parkway to the intersection of Northwest Ave and Birchwood Ave.

This should be a top priority in the PRO plan and should be **implemented immediately** and independently of the planned Bay to Baker trail improvements. Construction of a stairway from Squalicum Parkway to Northwest Ave. aligns with multiple Legacies and Strategic Commitments that were adopted by City Council in 2009:

Safe & Prepared Community

- Prevent and response to crime
- Ensure safe infrastructure

Mobility and Connectivity Options

- Provide safe, well connected mobility options for all users
- Maintain & improve streets, trails & other infrastructure

Access to Quality of Life Amenities

- Maintain and enhance publicly owned assets

Vibrant Sustainable Economy

- Support a thriving economy across all sectors
- Create conditions that encourage public and private investment

Thank you for your consideration,
Tim and Shannon Fuller
2806 Cedarwood Ave.

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: judy orvik <judy.orvik@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 12, 2014 8:52 PM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: trail system from Little Squalicum Beach to the downtown area

My husband and I moved to Bellingham nine years ago. We were attracted to this area because of it's beauty, trail systems and public pride in the community and the natural resources that are available to everyone. We do not live in the Squalicum Beach area but we travel throughout Bellingham on foot and bicycles. What we have noticed is that the area of Northwest Ave and the Squalicum Creek and beach areas are not as easily accessible as most of Bellingham. It seems unfortunate that there is no connector to this area and the downtown area by trail. I would hope that this be considered in any planning that takes place in the future. Perhaps it was just an oversight in the current plan that can be rectified. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely Judy Orvik 1331 St. Paul St.
647-3605

Walker, J Lynne L.

From: Elizabeth Hunt <bignen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2014 9:24 AM
To: CC - Shared Department
Subject: Please finish trail parallel to Squalicum Way

Dear Council,

Please connect the trail that runs parallel to Squalicum Way from Squalicum Park all the way up to Meridian and Cornwall Park.

Our family includes two children ages 8 and 10 and it is great having the trails near Squalicum Park for family bike rides and walks. The portion of the ride along Squalicum Way up to Meridian along the road isn't as safe and definitely isn't as pleasant.

Thank you for your consideration,
Liz Hunt
Birchwood Neighborhood Resident
3126 McLeod Rd
Bellingham, WA 98225
305-0505