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**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** BELLINGHAM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
**FROM:** LAINE POTTER, PARKS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
**CC:** NICOLE OLIVER  
**SUBJECT:** SAMISH WAY PARKING LOT CHANGING ROOM AND ART DONATION  
**DATE:** JANUARY 11, 2023

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The Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition (WMBC) is proposing to donate to the City a small, open-air changing station at the new Lake Padden/Galbraith parking lot at Samish Way. In addition to the donation, WMBC would be responsible for maintenance of the structure and artwork.

One of the WMBC fundraisers for the parking lot was fenders, jerseys, and a Stemma beer that all used artwork created by Brooklyn Bell. Brooklyn grew up in Bellingham, went to Squilicum and Western for college and now is a sponsored biker and skier as well as a talented artist. Chris Mandell with SRAM (one of her sponsors) commissioned her to do the artwork and WMBC's original plan was to include it on the fence around the bathrooms.

A common issue at all bike parking areas, and something that has been observed by WMBC staff and volunteers, is that people change clothes in the open or next to their cars. Chris and Brooklyn came up with the idea of building an open-air changing area (see attached example with a rendering of Brooklyn's artwork). A local contracting company (Wellman and Zuck) has offered to build it and SRAM will pay for the materials. The structure will be less than 200 square feet and is proposed to be located near the restrooms at the north end of the parking lot.

With the bike industry starting to slow down, WMBC is concerned that the funds offered by SRAM for this project may not be available indefinitely. WMBC is requesting Parks and Recreation Board approval to move forward with design and permitting.



Proposed location

