# CHAPTER 4 - COMMENTS AND RESPONSES ON THE DRAFT EIS

The Draft EIS was published on June 4, 2009. In accordance with SEPA (WAC 197-11-455), the public was afforded an extended public comment period of 45 days; public comments on the Draft EIS were accepted through July 20, 2009. A public hearing and open house for the Draft EIS was held at City Hall on June 23, 2009.

The City received numerous comments on the Draft EIS. Although this chapter uses the term "letter" to refer to individual commentors/comments, comments were received in various media, including letters, emails, and standardized comment forms provided by the City at the public hearing. In addition to the written comments, comments were received at the public hearing via formal verbal testimony, recorded by a court reporter; a complete transcript from the public hearing is in the City's project files and available to the public upon request. In several cases, people giving formal testimony read from their prepared written comments. Some people or organizations submitted more than one comment letter and/or gave formal testimony at the hearing.

The comments are reproduced in this chapter, along with written responses by the City. Table 4-1 lists the comments received, identifying the source and type of comment (e.g., letter, e-mail). The comments and the City's associated responses are presented in Tables 4-2 through 4-4. Table 4-2 contains the majority of comments received; Tables 4-3 and 4-4 were prepared separately for two longer comment letters (Letter #3 and #14, respectively). In the tables, reproductions of pages from the comment letters are shown side by side with the associated responses to facilitate review. When formal public testimony at the public hearing was the same as a letter submitted, the testimony is not reproduced in the comment response tables; however, the full public hearing transcript is in the City's project files and available to the public upon request. Some of the letters received also included attachments or supplemental material, submitted for the record that did not contain specific comments on the Draft EIS or that duplicated other submittals. Examples include materials previously submitted to the City, organizational guidance documents, and copies of letters also submitted by the letter's author. These attachments are not reproduced in the Final EIS; however, they were reviewed by the City as part of the preparation of the Final EIS and are on file and available for public viewing at City Hall as part of the project file.

To facilitate and organize responses, each comment has been assigned a unique alphanumeric designation. For example, comment 1-A refers to Letter #1, Comment A (the first comment in Letter #1), followed by 1-B, 1-C, etc. Comment identification numbers are generally shown in the left margin of each comment letter, with the coded response in the right column.

The City received several different types of comments on the Draft EIS. These included letters from affected organizations and professionals on behalf of other parties, although most of the letters and public hearing comments came from neighbors and from City of Bellevue residents and users of the park. Comments that express an opinion or preference, or that do not address a SEPA-related issue, may be acknowledged with a response that indicates that the comment is "noted" and will be directed to appropriate decision makers, if applicable. "Comment noted" does not imply either agreement or disagreement with the comment. Where a comment requests additional information, clarification, or correction, the response provides an explanation of the approach to the analysis or other technical information as it relates to the SEPA analysis.

Table 4-1. Comments Received on the Draft EIS.

Table 4-1	I. Comments Received on the Draft EIS.		1
Letter #	Individual/Organization	Medium	Response Pg
1	Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Karen Walter	Letter	4-3
2	Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association, Marv Peterson	Letter	4-6
3	Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association, Marv Peterson	Letter	See Table 4-3
4	Whalers Cove, Ray Waldmann	Letter	4-8
5	Ten Thousand Meydenbauer, multiple signatures	Letter	4-11
6	Old Main Fueling LLC	Comment Form/ Letter	4-15
7	Tantallon LLC	Comment Form/ Letter	4-18
8	Meydenbauer Yacht Club, Rod Bindon	Letter	4-20
9	Meydenbauer Yacht Club, Rod Bindon	Letter	4-24
10	Bellevue Downtown Assoc., Jill Ostrem and Leslie Lloyd	Letter	4-28
11	PACCAR, Daniel Lewis	Letter	4-30
12	Robert Bernstein	Letter	4-33
13	R.W. Thorpe & Associates	Letter, Testimony	4-42
14	R.W. Thorpe & Associates	Letter Letter	See Table 4-4
15	Patricia Montgomery	Testimony	4-48
16	Aaron Dichter	Testimony	4-48
17		E-mail	
17	Aaron & Edith Dichter Pam Ebsworth	Testimony	4-51 4-53
18	Pam Ebsworth	E-mail	4-53 4-56
20	Mildred Barker	E-mail	4-58
21	Madelaine Georgette	E-mail	4-60
22	Sandra Boyd	Letter	4-62
23	Kathleen Hodge	Letter	4-64
24	David Rogoway	Letter	4-68
25	Dahlman	E-mail	4-70
26	John Palevich	E-mail	4-70
27	Afshan Lakha	E-mail	4-71
28	Donald Rowe	E-mail	4-72
29	Pamela Rolfe	Letter	4-73
30	C. Marcus Madison	E-mail	4-74
31	Gordon & Annemarie White	Comment Form	4-74
32	Betty Schwind	Testimony	4-75
33	Betty Schwind	Comment Form	4-77
34	Donald and Betty Mastropaolo	Letter	4-78
35	Betty Kulp	Comment Form	4-79
36	Alyson Goudy	Comment Form	4-80
37	Sue Drais	Testimony	4-82
38	Sue Drais	Comment Form	4-84
39	Lorraine & Alfred Cordova	Comment Form	4-86
40	Louise Brewer	Testimony	4-87
41	Louise Brewer/Robert Drexler	Comment Form/ Letter	4-88
42	Joanne Roddis	Letter	4-91
43	Joanne Roddis	Letter	4-92
44	Jennifer Wilkins	Letter	4-93
45	Denise Jones	E-mail	4-94
46	David Parker	E-mail	4-95
47	Anita Skoog Neil	Letter	4-97
48	Jerry Baruffi	Testimony	4-98
49	Amy Williams	E-mail	4-101
50	David Smukowski	E-mail	4-102
51	Kevin Paulich	E-mail	4-103
52	Frank Klein	E-mail	4-104
53	Mike Burkhalter	E-mail	4-105
54	Peter Marshall	Letter	4-105
55	D.R. O'Hara	Testimony	4-109
56	D.R. O'Hara	Comment Form, E-mail	4-109
30	D.R. O Hala	Comment Form, E-mail	4-110

Table 4-2. Comments on the Draft EIS and the City's Responses (for Most Comments).

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #1, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	
MUCKLESHOOT INDIAN TRIBE Fisheries Division 39015 - 172 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE • Auburn, Washington 98092-9763 Phone: (253) 939-3311 • Fax: (253) 931-0752  July 20, 2009  Mr. Michael Paine Environmental Planning Manager Development Services Department City of Bellevue, P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-9012  RE: Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement Dear Mr. Paine:  The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan. This project occurs within the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe's Usual and Accustomed Fishing Arca. While we appreciate the inclusion of project elements to help improve fish habitat, especially in Alternatives I and I A, the inwater elements of the project under all proposed Alternatives have the protectial to adversely affect the Tribe's treaty protected fisheries resources and the Tribe's ability to access these resources. Impacts to Tribal fishing can occur as a result of both construction and operations for this project. Therefore, it is essential that the City work closely with the Tribe as the plan is implemented to avoid potential impacts to the fullest extent possible. The MITFD requests early project review prior to SEPA notice as part of this coordination.  We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal and would be happy to meet with the City to discuss these comments. You can reach me at 253-876-3116 to set up a meeting.  Sincerely,  Karen Walter Watersheds and Land Use Team Leader  Ce: Jacalen Printz, ACOE Stewart Reinbold, WDFW, Region 4	1A. The City will coordinate with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division as plan implementation is pursued. See responses to detailed comments below.

Letter #1

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division Comments to Meydenbauer Bay Park DEIS July 20, 2009 Page 2

### **General Comments**

- As noted in the DEIS, Alternatives 1 and 1A have more beneficial components to protect and restore fisheries resources within the project area and Lake Washington than all of the other alternatives.
- There are some inconsistencies in the descriptions of the Alternatives between pages 1-11 through 1-19 and Table 2.5.1. For example, under Alternative 2 on page 3-127 (mislabeled and should be page 1-13), this section indicates that the existing public pier will be removed. However, Table 2.5.1 indicates that this pier will be retained.

#### **Page Specific Comments**

- Chapter 3: Affected Environment, Impacts and Mitigation Measures
- Page 3-42, Stormwater should be rerouted so that it does not discharge directly to the newly daylighted stream under Alternatives 1, 1A, 2 and 2A.
- Page 3-42, The proposed daylighted stream should be constructed using wood for instream habitat elements, grade control, and bank stabilization instead of rock. In addition, the riparian buffer for the daylighted stream should be restored as much as possible to provide the fullest extent of riparian functions including adequate shading and wood recruitment over time as the buffer matures.
- Page 3-43, Lake Washington is closed to any new water withdrawals. If a water feature is constructed as proposed, it should only occur within the City's existing water rights.
- Page 3-51, The FEIS should also note that piers may also provide salmon fish predators with vertical structure habitat and enable them to use this structure to ambush juvenile salmon rearing and migrating along the lakeshore.
- Page 3-52, There are other potential impacts to salmon as a result of stormwater discharges other than impacts from untreated stormwater water quality. For example, stormwater discharges can physically displace juvenile salmon trying to rear in streams during high flow events resulting in an increased risk of mortality due to an inability to feed and maintain station and predation.
- Page 3-66, The existing fish work window for the project area overlaps with potential timeframes for Tribal fishing. The in-water plan elements (i.e. new piers, pier removal, shoreline, etc.) have a potential to adversely affect the Tribe's ability to fish due to both construction and operational impacts. It is essential that the City provide project plans early in the permitting process so that the potential conflicts can be addressed.
- Page 3-102, The FEIS should discuss why the action alternatives need to fill and relocate the wetland at the north end of the Park.
- Page 3-108, Alternative 2 should be modified by getting rid of the proposed floating boardwalk within the Nearshore of Lake Washington. As noted in the DEIS, public access to shallow water already exists at this park and this floating boardwalk will adversely affect juvenile salmon habitat within the Nearshore.
- Page 3-109, All new piers and docks should minimize their artificial lighting to avoid providing salmon predators with a feeding advantage at night.
- Page 3-109, The FEIS should also note that structures within DNR managed lands will likely require a lease agreement with DNR.
- Page 3-264, The Alternatives in the FEIS should also discuss the possibility to relocate the portion of existing sewer line within the Park to an upland location and out of Lake Washington.

# City's Response to Comment

- **1B.** Comment noted.
- **1C.** Table 2.5-1 was rechecked against Figures 1.3-2 and 1.3-3 in the Draft EIS and was found to be consistent. The existing public pier referred to in Table 2.5-1 is the small pier near the swim beach at the northwest end of the existing park. That pier would be removed in Alternative 1 but retained in Alternative 2, as represented both in the table and the figures.
- **1D.** Stormwater conveyance routes will be determined at the project level. If discharge into the daylighted stream is proposed, stormwater treatment options will be evaluated.
- **1E.** The value of naturally functioning processes is recognized. Given the site constraints (relatively small site, narrow stream channel, proximity to neighboring privately-owned property), it is likely that a combination of natural and artificial measures would be used to maximize riparian functions.
- 1F. Comment noted.
- **1G.** Comment noted. The removal and reconfiguration of some of the existing public moorage and removal of residential docks would reduce the number of vertical structures and the amount of overwater coverage providing this benefit to predators.
- **1H.** Comment noted. The intended incorporation of Low Impact Development/Natural Drainage Practices into the project would reduce stormwater discharge impacts on juvenile salmon.
- **1I.** The City will coordinate with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division as plan implementation is pursued.
- 1J. Information concerning the existing wetlands is provided on Page 3-51 of the Draft EIS. These three wetlands total less than 2,000 sq ft in area, and are rated as Category IV wetlands (the lowest of the categories using the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington, Revised [Hruby 2004]). They contain no features that would make them suitable for wildlife use distinct from a residential lawn extending to the armored shoreline. The City

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	of Bellevue Land Use Code (Part 20.25H LUC – Critical Areas Overlay District) allows the alteration of Category IV wetlands and buffers under some circumstances, when appropriate mitigation and enhancement is implemented to ensure that no habitat, water quality, or hydrologic function is lost.  All action alternatives propose to relocate the wetlands to accommodate other park elements. In doing so, the wetlands would be enhanced and potentially enlarged, and opportunities for enhancement of habitat, water quality, and hydrologic functions would be explored. More analysis of the extent to which such enhancements are feasible would occur at the project level.  1K. Specific design, placement, materials, and mitigation of the floating boardwalk will be evaluated more closely at the project level.  1L. Specific measures to minimize artificial lighting impacts, such as screening and shielding, will be evaluated in more detail at the project level.  1M. Comment noted.  1N. The City's preference is to relocate this section of the sewer line to an upland location. This project has been identified as Project S-58 in the City of Bellevue FY 2009 – FY 2015 Capital Investment Program. Effects of the sewer relocation will be analyzed when the project location and other project information is known.
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	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #2	2, Marv Peterson, Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association	
	Letter #2	
	June 23, 2009	
	Statement at Public Hearing on DEIS for Meydenbauer Bay Park	
	Good Evening,	
	For the record, my name is Marv Peterson. I am the president of the Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association. We are a non-profit Organization founded in the Spring of 2007. The Association's Mission is to represent the Meydenbauer Bay Community, which is made up of over 1300 families, 8 condo associations, and the Meydenbauer Yacht Club.	
	We have made it clear all along that we support the Park as a True Park and we will continue our efforts to work with the City and others to develop a consensus around the ideal park.	36. A bearing is not always required by CEDA, beauty and the City, one and did
	I have three points to make tonight.	<b>2A.</b> A hearing is not always required by SEPA; however, the City can and did opt to conduct a hearing as an added opportunity for the public to comment
A	Number 1. The time period between the release of the EIS two and a half week ago and this Public Hearing is totally inadequate to provide meaningful oral comments. The EIS is over 300 pages long and took the professional consultants months to prepare. Clearly, a mere two and a half weeks later is far too short to provide comprehensive comments.	on the Draft EIS. When a hearing is held, it must occur no earlier than 15 days and no more than 50 days following issuance of the Draft EIS. The hearing was held 19 days after issuance of the Draft EIS and within the designated timeframe. In addition, in recognition of the public interest in the proposal and the Draft EIS, the City extended the comment period from 30 days to 45 days to ensure adequate time for interested parties to provide written comments.
В	Number 2. We are greatly concerned with the schedule created for the Steering Committee. The written comment period on the EIS does not end until July 20, and yet the Steering Committee is expected to immediately begin choosing a preferred alternative next week and make the selection by the end of July after 4-5 more meetings. With all do respect, the timing in July when people are gone plus the short time period makes it very difficult for the public to provide fair input. Plus, this approach appears to violate SEPA's mandate to consider the comments on the EIS before making any decisions.	<b>2B.</b> SEPA encourages public agencies to integrate the development of alternatives with the preparation of the environmental analysis. SEPA also allows agencies to identify a Preferred Alternative. The City chose to appoint the Steering Committee to work with the public in developing alternatives for evaluation in the EIS, and to recommend a Preferred Alternative for the Final EIS. If a Preferred Alternative is desired, it can be identified at any time in the EIS process—scoping, Draft EIS, or Final EIS. Designating a Preferred
	Number 3. Our quick review of the EIS reveals a number of concerns, but I only have time to mention a couple:	Alternative does not restrict the lead agency's final decision. SEPA mandates that the Final EIS be issued prior to the City Council making any decisions.

### Letter #2

right.

The EIS fails to recognize that traffic on Main Street is already bad, and closing 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue south of Main Street will only make it worse. Closing 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue will force the northbound trips onto 101<sup>st</sup> and then those cars will be stuck at the Main stop sign unable to enter Main Street. A right turn is the only option to avoid accidents and then trying to make a left on 102<sup>nd</sup> simply causes gridlock behind. Southbound trips on 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be forced on to Main in the backup made worse by the northbound trips turning

There are not enough parking spaces, and so the traffic impact is understated. Alternative 2 provides a staggering 156 parking spaces. But, the EIS claim that only 141 spaces are required appears to understate the need by about 60 spaces. That's over 200 parking spaces required and only 156 provided. That means 40-50 cars looking for parking spaces on the side streets. Plus, adding 200 cars to Main Street on a Saturday afternoon or weekday after work is clearly a recipe for complete gridlock, will create substantial noise, and is inconsistent with the pedestrian park concept adopted by the City Council.

The Association will be taking a close look at the Draft EIS and we will submit comprehensive written comments. Again, we support a True Park, but we are concerned with the elements of these Alternatives that seek to turn the Park into a something other than the originally envisioned pedestrian Park for Bellevue residents.

I am turning in a copy of these remarks for the record along with our Mission Statement, and a packet of earlier comments for the Steering Committee Walkabout on March 14, 2009.

Thank you.

# City's Response to Comment

**2C.** The Draft EIS (page 3-174) acknowledges that "101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE and Main Street are not functioning well as arterials if through-traffic diverts to 100<sup>th</sup> Ave SE to avoid congestion and delay," Traffic modeling takes into account existing traffic volumes and operations for current conditions and projects future conditions based on anticipated growth and planned transportation improvements, in addition to traffic generated specifically by each alternative. Transportation analysis is found in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS.

**2D.** City code, the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) trip generation manual, and professional judgment determine the required number of parking spaces necessary to meet the typical daily demand for park users and minimize overflow into adjacent neighborhoods. Specific parking requirements will be refined at the time of project-design and approval to meet project-specific demand and any other needs as determined by the City.

**2E**. Comment and receipt of attachment noted.

**2F.** Comment noted. These comments were provided to the Steering Committee for the March 14, 2009 walkabout and were considered along with other information obtained by the Steering Committee as part of its process to develop the master plan and alternatives.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)		City's Response to Comment	
Letter #3, Marv Peterson, Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association		See Table 4-3, page 4-115	
Letter	#4, Whalers Cove		
	Whalers Cove Comments on Meydenbauer Bay Park		
	June 23, 2009		
	Presented by Ray Waldmann, president of Whalers Cove HOA.		
- 1		4A. Comment noted.	
A	The 24 Whalers Cove Homeowners will be heavily impacted by Park development. We are the closest neighbors to the Park and the Marina. We will be acutely aware of any noise, traffic, commercial activity, debris, or new structures in the Park. Done correctly, however, a Park can be an asset to the City, our neighbors and our owners.  • Develop a peaceful, natural and relaxed Park—This would be	4B. The steep topography of the site will allow the proposed structures to be	
В	in keeping with the character of Meydenbauer Bay and would be a major asset for the City. The outstanding views from the NW end of the park should be enhanced with open areas and low plantings without substantial parking or structures except for needed restrooms. Daylighting the portion of the creek on the lake side of the bridge would enhance the natural feeling.	constructed to provide multiple viewing opportunities and view corridors. Selection and location of landscape materials will occur at the project level. The EIS evaluates options for treatment of the creek in the ravine, including daylighting the portion located below the bridge.	
C	<ul> <li>Provide only limited parking in the NW Portion of the Park –         Enhance the peaceful feeling from 99<sup>th</sup> to the creek by maximizing         pedestrian access and limiting parking. Provide the bulk of the         parking near the grand entrance on 100<sup>th</sup> and limit parking in the         NW portion to that needed to service the marina, replace         neighborhood on-street parking and provide a memorable vehicle         accessible viewing area.</li> </ul>	<b>4C.</b> Parking quantities and locations were determined by the types and locations of the uses in the park.	
	No new structures in the Park—Structures would block views, would be out of scale for the Park, and would duplicate City facilities elsewhere. Retain the existing piers and whalers building and add only restrooms as needed. The Kirkland waterfront parks along Lake Washington Blvd are very popular and successful without park structures except for restrooms.	<b>4D.</b> See Response 4B, above. All action alternatives, as well as the No-Action Alternative, propose retention of the Whaling Building. The EIS evaluates options for retention, reduction, or reconfiguration of existing moorage. Other structures are unique in the park system, providing gathering and viewing opportunities of the waterfront year around.	
E	No commercial uses in the Park—Vendor kiosks and restaurants would detract from its peaceful and natural character, and cause major conflicts with the Park's neighbors. The Bellevue downtown park has been very successful without any commercial activity and the new park should extend this non-commercial	<b>4E.</b> The EIS evaluates options for different types of commercial uses in the park, including vendor carts, leased moorage, small watercraft such as canoe/kayak (referred to as People Powered Vessels or PPVs) rentals, and cafe. Your preferences concerning commercial uses are noted.	

omme	ent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
L	etter #4	
	nature. The Kirkland waterfront parks along Lake Washington Blvd are an example of well used waterfront parks with no commercial development.	
F	<ul> <li>Maintain Whalers Cove Noise Protection from Lake Washington Blvd. – The trees along Lake Washington Blvd protect Whalers Cove from traffic noise. It appears these trees may be on city property and may have to be removed for bike and pedestrian access along Lake Washington Blvd. A noise wall will be required to keep traffic noise to an acceptable level for Whalers Cove residents if these trees and other plantings are removed.</li> </ul>	<b>4F.</b> Comment noted.
G	<ul> <li>Improve 99th Ave. below Lake Washington Blvd.—This street presently provides waterfront access and is used by Whalers Cove for access to the property and for additional parking. Curving 99th away from Whalers Cove and eliminating parking on the street would enhance the park experience and provide space for screening plantings of limited height for visual isolation of Whalers Cove from the park.</li> </ul>	<b>4G.</b> The EIS evaluates options for the treatment of 99th Avenue NE, including curving it away from Whalers Cove in a northwesterly direction. The Master Plan is conceptual, and the actual layout of the road will be determined at the project design level where road standards, shoreline program requirements, and other design considerations will inform the final road configuration.
H	<ul> <li>Replace Existing On-street Parking – The present parking on Lake Washington Blvd and 99th is regularly used by Whalers Cove and other neighborhood residents. It appears this parking may be eliminated by park development and must be replaced. We suggest a 15 to 20 space surface parking lot just below Lake Washington Blvd. accessible from 99th. Plantings should be used to screen this parking from 99th, Lake Washington Blvd and the park.</li> </ul>	<b>4H.</b> The replacement of parking along 99th Ave NE is among the options evaluated in the EIS (see Alternative 1 and the Preferred Alternative).
	• Maintain a working Marina with adequate parking—Retain at least Piers 1 & 2 as the only publicly accessible and leasable moorage in Bellevue. Remove the roof from Pier 2 and from any portion of Pier 3 that is retained. Limited parking near Piers 1 & 2 will be necessary for a usable marina. Our suggestion is to tuck a small short term parking lot, say 12 spaces, back against the bank directly below Whalers Cove (in area shown for vendor kiosks on alternate 2). This would be adequate for the marina and could also provide level disabled access to the waterfront walkway.	<b>4I.</b> The EIS evaluates options for short-term parking near Pier 1. Final design will occur at the project level. All action alternatives propose the removal of existing pier roofs.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #4	
• Transient Moorage – Limit transient moorage to the 14 slips required by existing agreements and put this moorage NW of the existing piers to keep transient marine boat activity in the outer portion of the bay. Ban SeaDoos and other powered personal watercraft from this moorage and the bay inside Pickle Point. The small parking lot used for the leased marina slips could also serve as the pick up and drop off area for the transient moorage.	<b>4J.</b> The transient moorage cannot be located northwest of the existing piers as it is required to be located at the properties purchased with the help of State funding. Essentially, this limits the possible transient moorage location to between 99th Avenue NE and 100th Avenue SE/SE Bellevue Place.
• Retain emergency access to serve Whalers Cove—Fire truck access for the lower buildings in our complex is now provided by 99th and the Marina parking lot and must be retained. This could be kept accessible from 99th with the proposed waterfront walkway and the small parking lot suggested for the marina with a minor adjustment of the walkway from the proposed alternates.	<b>4K.</b> All of the alternatives include emergency access to Whalers Cove and other residences in the project study area. The City's emergency service providers have reviewed the action alternatives and have concluded that the looped circulation route provided by Meydenbauer Way SE and the shoreline promenade will allow sufficient emergency access to adjacent properties.
Limit hard surfaces along the lake—The space between     Whalers Cove and the water is narrow, and should not be used for a hard surfaced walkway with commercial or any other except emergency uses. Use natural materials on a pedestrian walkway to enhance the natural feeling of the park. The circular walkway at the downtown park is an excellent example of such a walkway.	4L. Comment noted.
Boat Rental – Locate people powered watercraft rentals and launching facilities near the foot of 100th for convenient access from downtown and to encourage investigation of the inner bay by non-obtrusive watercraft.	<b>4M.</b> The EIS evaluates different locations for PPVs, including the location you recommend.
Speed Limits in the Bay – Limit speeds to no-wake inside Pickle     Point for the safety of swimmers and youth sailing at the Yacht     Club and minimization of erosion of softened waterfront edges.	4N. Comment noted.

Letter #5

access issue has been glossed over for over two years and is glossed over in the DEIS. A ladder truck has great difficulty negotiating the corner now – what would that look like without the presence of SE 100<sup>th</sup>.

C (cont)

Bottom line: the DEIS fails to address the impact of the closure of our street. The closure of SE 100<sup>th</sup> in order to have a "grand entrance" is irresponsible. Irresponsible! It goes against the wishes of the tax base. Since the project began, over two years ago, there has been absolutely no public comment asking for this street to be closed. What we have heard is an overwhelming outpouring of sentiment demanding that it remain open. To no avail.

2. The proposed "mini Alaska Way viaduct" structure is inappropriate. It is in bad taste. The DEIS sadly neglects to take into consideration the impact of such an out of scale, inappropriate, utterly tragic "monument" in this tiny cove. The obsession to have a "WOW" has lost touch with reality. The "wow" is the bay itself.

D

The mini Alaska Way viaduct eliminates the view the residents of 10000 paid for. It changes the character of our neighborhood. This isn't Santa Monica or Sausalito or Kirkland. This is a tiny cove. The park has 1000 feet of waterfront -- 1000 feet isn't much and it is unrealistic to expect a city to be classified as "waterfront" on such a short space.

E

3. Number 1 and Number 2 drastically reduce the property values of Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. The DEIS makes no comment on this negative impact. Our lifestyle, our view, access to our front door, parking for guests - - what else is there to take? Our rights have not been respected and our concerns repeatedly ignored.



4. Reduction of public moorage. This destroys the character and history of our neighborhood. It also removes a revenue stream to the City. An extensive list of cities in our State are increasing public moorage. The marina is a charming part of the bay and is part of the heritage we wish to preserve. Take the roofs off but keep the moorage. The marina is an important amenity we enjoy and respect.

5. Transient Moorage. The DEIS does not address the enormous negative impact of this transient moorage. Transient moorage is damaging to the environment and lifestyle of the neighborhood. It is thoughtless, and against the green era one would expect a city like Bellevue to uphold. Transient moorage will attract a crowd of people who party, sell drugs, increase litter (litter is already an enormous issue with members of our HOA and other neighbors picking up the leftover McDonald's containers, wine bottles, etc on a regular basis). Already we have seen used condoms and discarded pantyhose in the middle of our street. Transient moorage will be a dangerous impact to the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club's Youth Sailing Program which is a valuable part of our community. Crime will increase. Presently our neighborhood does not have adequate police protection. This can be shown through the continuous number of cars which repeatedly block our fire hydrant without citation.

City's Response to Comment

- **5D.** The elevated walkway is one of several options evaluated in the EIS to allow the public to experience spectacular views of the bay. The elevated walkway would not eliminate the view from Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. The park shoreline extends 1,250 feet from the existing beach park to the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club.
- **5E.** SEPA does not address property values. However, it is unlikely that Ten Thousand Meydenbauer property values will decline based on the range of civic improvements proposed under the action alternatives evaluated in the EIS. Property values are influenced by many factors, many of which are subjective; what one person sees as adverse, may be seen by another as beneficial.
- **5F.** The EIS evaluated alternatives that strike a balance between long-term and transient moorage, public access, and shoreline restoration. All action alternatives broaden the boating community that is served at this public facility.
- **5G.** We are not aware of studies supporting your concerns about transient moorage.

Letter #5

The multiple effects of transient moorage are not properly reviewed in the DEIS. In fact they are ignored.

Н

6. The DEIS neglects to address the significant amount of noise pollution that will be added to our neighborhood. The DEIS ignores, as has the Steering Committee and City Officials, the narrowness of our cove – the scale of the bay vs. the scale of the project. The residents of Ten Thousand Meydenbauer and our neighborhood live in an echo chamber. The added noise will impact the quality of our lives and will drastically diminish the wildlife populations with whom we share our tiny cove



7. Our homeowneres are firmly against any commercial entities in the park. Bellevue has more than enough commercial development, much of which exists in our immediate vicinity. To defile our beautiful neighborhood, which should highlight nature and the beauty of the Great Northwest, is poor taste. As a neighbor recently noted at the DEIS hearing, food concessions produce rats. Rats and food were not mentioned in the DEIS. Litter from food products was not mentioned in the DEIS. People can buy t-shirts, etc elsewhere.



8. The DEIS does not reflect the concerns that have been repeatedly voiced by Bellevue's taxpayers and voters. This is outrageous. What happened to the concept that City employees are public servants. The public pays their salaries. The process violates common sense. We object to the fact that the Steering Committee has voted on their recommendations without benefit of reviewing the taxpayers comments on the DEIS. What does that say for the City of Bellevue's process and procedures? It is an outrage.



9. The DEIS does not address cost to taxpayers. We want a park that is a true park. We don't want to toss out and replace valuable amenities that function well, ie restrooms and other existing structures in Meydenbauer Bay Beach Park. We don't want our tax dollars wasted, ie spending \$5 to \$10 million to re-route the existing utilities under SE 100<sup>th</sup> so we can have the ugly mini Alaska Way viaduct destroying the ambiance and beauty of the bay. The DEIS and the City have ignored expense. This is grossly insensitive in any time period. It is unconscionable in today's economic reality.

We close with a few quotes that we believe should serve as a premise for the park.

Webster's definition of park: "A piece of ground in or nearby a city or town kept for ornament and recreation. . . . an area maintained in its natural state as a public property."

Mies van der Rohe: "less is more."

Louis Sullivan: "form follows function"

The homeowners of Ten Thousand Meydenbauer warmly welcome a PARK. Most of us purchased our homes with the knowledge that we would be sharing the neighborhood with a public park. Let's keep it a park. May the DEIS dig deeper and be a realistic.

# City's Response to Comment

**5H.** Noise impacts are evaluated in Section 3.10 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS.

**51.** Your preferences concerning commercial uses are noted. The EIS evaluates options for different types of commercial uses in the park, including vendor carts, leased moorage, PPV rentals, and cafe. Bellevue Parks are maintained regularly, and food and litter will not be left to attract rodents.

**5J.** The Draft EIS considered the scoping comments pursuant to SEPA. Between April 2007 and August 2009, the Steering Committee held 20 Steering Committee meetings, attended six public workshops, attended the Draft EIS scoping meeting and public hearing, and maintained notebooks of every public comment regarding the project submitted during that time frame, including all Draft EIS comments. The Steering Committee was charged with representing all Bellevue residents in making their recommendations for this community-wide asset. The Steering Committee did not finalize a Preferred Alternative until after the close of the Draft EIS comment period, but its direction was reflected in Alternatives 1 and 2 of the Draft EIS.

**5K.** The Draft EIS did not discuss project cost, because cost is not a SEPA issue. The City has demonstrated a commitment to creating an extraordinary community-wide asset, which will require capital investment. Phasing and grant applications can help minimize impacts to taxpayers of project financing.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #5 Sincerely,	
is a second	
The Homeowners Association of 10000 Meydenbauer	
Mildred Barker	
- Wildred Barker	
Sandra Boyd	
Agron Dichter  Alexa Dichter  Edith Dichter	
ESTE Dullen	
Pamela Ebsworth	
Painela Elsworth	
Madelaine Georgette	
Ms Georgette is out of the country but has provided her consent	
Carol Richards Caral Rechards	
Caral Rechards Gordon Richards Gordon Richards	

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #6, Old Main Fueling LLC	
Meydenbauer Bay PARK AND LAND USE PLAN	
Draft Environmental Impact Statement	
COMMENT FORM	
Letter #6 Return (or Postmark) by July 20, 2009 CONTACT INFORMATION	
NAME: Old Main Fuling LLC	
CONTACT INFORMATION  NAME:  Old Main Freling LLC  ADDRESS:  Po Box 1607  Belleve STATE:  219: 98009  E-MAIL:	
nathan constolerate.com	
Please add my name to your project mailing listYESNO	
COMMENTS: Please provide comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.	
See attached shocks for Detriked comments	

Letter #6

As the landowner of the property commonly known as the Chevron station, which lies within the area targeted for a coordinated redevelopment as part of the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan, we have the following comments on the draft EIS:

- 1. 100th Ave south of Main Street: Any lost street access that either currently or that could potentially provide access to our property will reduce the incentive to ever redevelop the Chevron site. We oppose any scenario that closes 100th Ave SE/SE Bellevue Place, and restricts our ability to access the property from the western side. With the proper streetscaping, including design of sidewalks, use of trees, street surface materials, etc, 100th Ave SE/SE Bellevue Place can remain as an access point to our property and to the properties of many residents, and also provide an inviting entrance to the waterfront park. One of the tenets of this project has been to recognize the historical importance of Meydenbauer Bay and all of its unique features. The City has cited the historical uses of Meydenbauer Bay as reason for considering a commercial presence within the park. The historical significance of 100th Ave SE/SE Bellevue Place should also be recognized because of its contribution to facilitating past commercial activities such as ferrying and whaling. As indicated in the attached reference, the portion of road contemplated for closure was the first ever road in Bellevue. It was once the primary portal to the entire Eastside; its historical significance should be recognized and improved, not destroyed. In the event that the City of Bellevue adamantly opposes the continued use of 100th Ave SE/SE Bellevue Place to through traffic, we request that the northern portion of 100th Ave NE south of Main Street remain open for local access to the west side of our property with an appropriate transition at the south end to the newly built waterfront park.
- 2. Redevelopment potential: In discussing the land use component of the Meydenbauer park plan, the City has recognized the need to use a market based approach to incentivize redevelopment of certain parcels, including the Chevron station site. It was determined by third party consultants that doubling the density is an appropriate level to encourage the desired redevelopment. The preliminary ideas on how to achieve a doubling of density include a reduction in required setbacks and an increase in the available lot coverage, but no increase in height restrictions. While this may be possible to achieve on certain parcels that are currently regulated under the R-30 zoning designation.

Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan, draft EIS comments, Old Main Fueling LLC  $\,$ 

City's Response to Comment

**6A.** Comments noted. The EIS evaluates the impacts of both "road open" and "road closed" alternatives. The action alternatives that would close this road to vehicle traffic would provide new vehicle access from 101st Avenue SE to shared underground parking (for Alternative 2 and the Preferred Alternative). 100th Avenue SE can continue to function as a vital link from Meydenbauer Bay to the adjacent neighborhoods by creating a pedestrian-oriented gateway. Adaptive reuse of the Whaling Building is intended to reflect the historical role that Meydenbauer Bay played in the beginnings of Bellevue. Historical acknowledgements could also be conveyed in public art, the nature of which would be determined at the project level.

**6B.** An increase in allowable density on the Chevron site is not proposed under any of the alternatives evaluated in the EIS; current FAR limits would remain in place. For the DNTN-OB district, when located in Perimeter Subdistrict A, the maximum allowable FAR is 3.5 with the proper mix of commercial and residential (not 5.0). With respect to lot coverage, although the Land Use Code currently allows a maximum coverage of 100% in the DNTN-OB district, a 20-ft building setback is required from the DNTN boundary (i.e., the south and west boundaries of the Chevron property).

While the action alternatives evaluated in the EIS do not envision changes to currently allowed uses, density, or building height on the Chevron site, they do suggest the reduction or elimination of the DNTN boundary setbacks. This would allow more flexibility in building siting and footprint configuration on that parcel, assuming a coordinated approach to redevelopment with surrounding properties to incorporate appropriate public benefits.

Α



Commer	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Lette		
B (cont)	this is not possible on parcels such as the Chevron site with DNTN-OB zoning. DNTN-OB zoning already allows for 100% lot coverage, no setbacks, and the ability to meet the maximum FAR of 5.0 with the proper mix of commercial and residential. The preliminary land use maps contemplate a coordinated redevelopment on the City owned parcel known as the BayVue Village East parcel, which shares a southern property line with the Chevron station. This is presumably a way of incentivizing redevelopment, however even with full lot coverage on that site the effective density increase would fall well short of the doubling recommended by the consultants. Without some level of height restriction increase, we do not see another way to achieve the recommended density increase.	
C	3. Property Usage: As everyone who lives or works in Bellevue west of I-405 knows, fuel is increasingly difficult to come by, especially near downtown. While fueling and auto service activities may not fit the City's ideal vision of commercial activity near the new park, they are essential services to residents and employees and their importance should be recognized in any coordinated redevelopment land-use overlay that may be recommended.	<b>6C.</b> No changes to allowable uses in the DNTN-OB district are proposed by any of the alternatives evaluated in the EIS.
	4. Park: If Alternative 2 or 2A is pursued, it should include much more greenspace at the street level along Lake Washington Blvd. The amount of gray impervious surface shown at the street level in visual simulations figure 3.7-16 and 3.7-17 from the 6/30/09 Steering Committee Agenda Packet, is simply unattractive. If the City truly desires to attract year-round usage at the new park it must include some level of covered areas such as those found in Alternative 2. However, from the visual simulations of Alternative 2, a park user would have almost no opportunity to set foot on natural landscaping; this is not particularly inviting either. A hybrid of Alternatives 1 and 2 should be used that incorporates the best features from each.	<b>6D.</b> Comment noted. The EIS evaluates options for weather protection as you recommend. Further refinement of the landscape design of this area will occur at the project level.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #7, Tantallon LLC	
Meydenbauer Bay PARK AND LAND USE PLAN	
Draft Environmental Impact Statement	
COMMENT FORM	
Letter #7 Return (or Postmark) by July 20, 2009	
CONTACT INFORMATION NAME:	
Testellas 11-C	
ADDRESS: PO Box 1607 CITY: Bellevue STATE: 21P: 98009 E-MAIL:	4.
nathance pistolcreek. com	
Please add my name to your project mailing listYESNO	
COMMENTS: Please provide comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.	
See attached sheet for detailed comments	

### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #7 As the landowner of the property at One 100th Ave NE, which lies within the immediate area that will be affected by the new park and any land development that will occur as part of the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan, we have the following comments on the draft EIS: 1. Access: All three site plan alternatives show multiple vehicular access 7A. This oversight is noted. The Tantallon building does have vehicle access А points throughout the study area, none of which recognize our existing from 100th Avenue NE. Site plan figures in the Final EIS have been modified to primary access on the east side of the property along 100th Ave NE. This appears to be an error on the maps, but it must be revised. illustrate this access. 2. Land Use: The apartment and condo buildings to the immediate west-**7B.** Comment noted. northwest of our building are all included in the land use component of the Meydenbauer park plan, and are part of the potential redevelopment/overlay district that will provide for a doubling of the density. It is our understanding that increases in density will occur through a combination of setback reductions and lot coverage increases. While this is an effective way of increasing density without increasing the height restrictions, we are adamantly opposed to any В variation of existing permitted building allowances (i.e. setbacks, lot coverage, or height restrictions) that will further obstruct views from our building or encroach on our property, particularly to the west and southwest. During the relatively recent construction of our building we were subject to onerous and expensive building restrictions because of City mandated setbacks and height limits. To now possibly allow some of these same mandates that were imposed on us to be waived for neighboring properties, could bring adverse impacts to our property, and possibly influence decisions that we make with regard to our other holdings in the area. 3. Park: If Alternative 2 or 2A is pursued, it should include much more **7C.** See response to Old Main Fueling (Response 6D). greenspace at the street level along Lake Washington Blvd. The amount of gray impervious surface shown at the street level in visual simulations figure 3.7-16 and 3.7-17 from the 6/30/09 Steering Committee Agenda Packet, is simply unattractive. If the City truly C desires to attract year-round usage at the new park it must include some level of covered areas such as those found in Alternative 2. However, from the visual simulations of Alternative 2, a park user would have almost no opportunity to set foot on natural landscaping; this is not particularly inviting either. A hybrid of Alternatives 1 and 2 should be used that incorporates the best features from each. Meydenbauer Bay Park and land Use Plan, draft EIS comments, Tantallon LLC

Commen	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
	3, Meydenbauer Yacht Club	
	VACHT CLUB  ON BEAUTIFUL LAKE WASHINGTON  MAIL ADDRESSPO. BOX 863 BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON 99009	
51 gr 60	June 22, 2009	
	Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club	
	Comments in response to City of Bellevue	
	Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan	
***	Draft Environmental Impact Statement June 2009	
0	Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club, formed in 1946 and located on the shore of Meydenbauer Bay, strongly supports the proposed new park. Since our formation some 63 years ago, and prior to the incorporation of the City of Bellevue, our members have been using the waters of Meydenbauer Bay in conjunction with the other waterfront residents and citizens of Bellevue. As a result of this long standing familiarity, and our very active participation in the steering committee process, we feel very qualified to comment on certain aspects of the draft EIS.	8A. Comment noted.
A	In addition to doing our part in contributing to the Park planning process, our main goals from the beginning have been to:	
	<ol> <li>Preserve access and circulation in the immediate area of MBYC and the Park by keeping 100<sup>th</sup> S.E. open.</li> </ol>	
	<ol><li>Retain as much as possible, the current amount of public moorage in Meydenbauer Bay.</li></ol>	
	3. Ensure minimal impact to our Youth Sailing Program from transient boaters utilizing the Park.	
	<ol> <li>Improve the water quality in the Bay by reducing siltation from Meydenbauer Creek and City storm sewer outfalls, and the control of milfoil and other noxious weeds.</li> </ol>	

### Letter #8

Page 2 of 4 – MBYC EIS Comments

Therefore, we would first like to comment on these four areas:

1. **KEEPING 100<sup>th</sup> AVE. S.E. OPEN** – 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. provides a vital traffic link to the shoreline residents of Meydenbauer Bay and the South Bellevue community. It provides a traffic by-pass to the extreme congestion on Main St. and the intersection of Main St. and Bellevue Way.

The EIS does not address the following, but we believe that the upcoming addition of tolls to the I-520 bridge will increase this congestion significantly, as residents of West Bellevue, Clyde Hill, and Medina choose to take I-90 to avoid these tolls, making the congestion on Main St. worse, and the  $100^{\rm th}$  S.E. by-pass even more necessary.

The utilities located under  $100^{th}$  Ave. S.E. include the Grange Sewer Pumping Station and it's lines, which pumps sewage from the entire North side of Meydenbauer Bay up to Main St. as well as storm sewer, fire mains, water, gas, and more. We have obtained estimates from competent underground utility contractors, and have found that the relocation of these important utilities would add an estimated \$5-10 million to the cost of the Park. The EIS barely touches on this and does not address cost. We believe these tax dollars would be better spent on the Park itself, or elsewhere in the City budget, than relocating utilities unnecessarily to widen the Park by 20-30 feet.

100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. was one of Bellevue's first streets, providing access to and from the Meydenbauer Bay shore for arriving and departing ferry passengers before the construction of the I-90 and I-520 bridges. One of the stated goals of the City Council's planning principles is to "recognize the heritage of Meydenbauer Bay, from the time of the Native Americans, explorers, and early settlers to the industries of whaling ferrying and today's residential and pleasure boat moorage."

By keeping 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. open, it would provide access to the Easterly portion of the BayVue Apt. Property, which would make an excellent parking lot for Park visitors, in close proximity to the Park.

The citizens of Bellevue and the properties with direct access to 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. have been enjoying this access for years, since well before the City existed or was incorporated. The closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. would be a taking of property rights of these affected properties by diminishing their rights of access. We believe this is in effect the exercising of eminent domain by the City, and goes against the City's own statements that they would not use eminent domain powers in the building of the Park.

This historic, vital vehicular and pedestrian link to the waterfront should be preserved and enhanced, not closed.

# **City's Response to Comment**

**8B.** Comment noted. The Draft EIS acknowledges that "101st Avenue SE and Main Street are not functioning well as arterials if through-traffic diverts to 100th Ave SE to avoid congestion and delay". Traffic modeling takes into account existing traffic volumes and operations, as well as projected future conditions based on anticipated growth and planned transportation improvements, in addition to traffic generated by the alternatives reviewed in the Draft EIS. Transportation analysis for the Preferred Alternative is found in Section 3.9 of the Final EIS.

WSDOT has delayed implementation of tolls on SR 520 to 2011. There has been no decision to date whether tolls will be implemented on SR 520 only, or also on I-90, or when they would be implemented. If tolls were imposed on both SR 520 and I-90, there would be no diversion of trips from one bridge crossing to the other. If tolls are imposed on SR 520 alone, some diversion of trips could occur. The implementation of tolling is a revenue generation tool, but another objective is to manage the time of travel to reduce the congestion that otherwise impedes flow. Graduated tolls that are highest at the peak time of travel have been shown to be effective in shifting trips to times of lesser demand. Also see Comment Letter 9, Response 9B.

Storm sewer, water, and sanitary sewer lines may need to be adjusted at the time of construction, but the steepness of the slope makes adjustment easier. Relocation may or may not be required, based on final project-level design; costs of any relocation of privately owned or operated utilities will be determined by contracts between the City and those utilities.

The 100th Avenue SE/Bellevue Place right-of-way is 60 feet wide, and extends about 500 feet. Recognizing the historic significance of the right-of-way as well as other features in the project study area can be done whether or not the road is closed to vehicle traffic. Surface parking is not the best use of the limited public space near the shoreline. Also, please see Comment Letter 5, Response 5A.

Letter #8

Page 3 of 4 MBYC EIS Comments

- 2. RETENTION OF PUBLIC MOORAGE IN MEYDENBAUER BAY Many major cities in Washington embrace the maritime heritage of the region, and recognize the contribution the various marine activities make to the local communities. For example, Seattle has Shilshole Bay Marina, and Leschi Marina. Everett has a fine public marina, as does Bremerton, Bellingham, Poulsbo and others. We think that a modern City marina in Bellevue can coexist with a new and well designed Park. We feel that the City should be seeking ways to preserve as much moorage as possible, rather than the opposite. In the future, over the next 20 to 50 years, there is a good chance that the Park may be able to expand further through the acquisition of additional adjacent properties, but once this moorage is gone, it will be gone for good.
- 3. Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club sponsors the MBYC Youth Sailing program, which is open to children from throughout the community. Over the years since it's inception this program has taught several thousand children, some as young as 8 years old to sail. In addition to sailing, this program is a big self esteem builder, and has many other educational and social benefits to the children and families that participate. This program operates from the MBYC dock # 3, closest to the City property, and has the potential to be adversely impacted by increased transient boat traffic using the new transient moorage proposed for the new Park. Therefore, we support a final Park design that reduces this impact by locating the transient moorage as far to the West as possible, away from or dock # 3.
- 4. Water Quality in Meydenbauer Bay . In our over 60 year heritage on the shores of Meydenbauer Bay, MBYC has been keenly aware of the deteriorating water quality conditions in the Bay. There has been significant siltation occurring from the various City storm sewer outfalls emptying into the Bay, as well as Meydenbauer Creek., as well as an ever thicker accumulation of invasive milfoil and other noxious weeds. If left unchanged, in the not too distant future, the new Park will be located on a swamp. We at MBYC are so concerned about water quality and stewardship of the Bay, that we have recently implemented our own Adopt a Bay program, where member volunteers patrol the Bay, picking up floating trash and other debris for disposal ashore. The EIS touches on storm water and water quality, and identifies it as a problem. The impact of the new Park will not help improve these conditions. We urge the City to take the lead in a joint effort of public and private entities to improve the water quality of Meydenbauer Bay for Park users, residents, and other citizens around the Bay.

# City's Response to Comment

8C. Comment noted.

- **8D.** The EIS evaluates different options for the location of transient moorage. The Final EIS evaluates the Preferred Alternative which provides for transient moorage along the south side of floating boardwalk, and excludes moorage on the east side of the pier neighboring the Yacht Club's youth sailing program. The transient moorage cannot be located northwest of the existing piers as it is required to be located at the properties purchased with the help of State funding. Essentially, this limits the possible transient moorage location to between 99th Avenue NE and 100th Avenue SE/SE Bellevue Place.
- **8E.** The Draft EIS evaluates water quality in Section 3.2 and concludes that water quality in the bay will be improved by the implementation of either action alternative because any development will be required to provide state-of-the-practice site stormwater management and treatment facilities. The Preferred Alternative includes similar provisions as described in Section 3.2 of the Final EIS.

The Draft (and Final) EIS acknowledges that the proposal could result in short-term increases in siltation due to construction activity. Long-term siltation impacts are not expected to result from the project. Construction-related activities will be subject to permit requirements, to be determined at the project level, to control potential impacts such as siltation. The City follows Department of Ecology guidelines for noxious aquatic weed control, continually monitoring the marina area to determine if herbicide application is necessary or appropriate. The City maintains a permit for herbicide application so that when treatment is needed it can be applied.

Comm	ent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
	Letter #8 Page 4 of 4 MBYC EIS Comments	
F	In summary, Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club believes in and supports the proposed Park, but prefers a hybrid design, taking some from each of the alternatives, keeping the road open, and retaining as much moorage as possible, very much along the lines first proposed by steering committee member Rich Wagner many months ago. We feel that the EIS is generally well written and informative, but while it identifies many impacts on the physical environment relating to fish, ducks, vegetation and the like, it does not go far enough in identifying impacts to the human environment, such as denial of access, traffic, noise, congestion, and their impact on people, and existing neighborhoods.	8F. Comment noted.
G	We feel that the rezoning of property, the increasing of densities, the placement of commercial enterprises in the park in competition with private enterprise located nearby, and the closing of streets and denial of access, are beyond the charter of a steering committee. We believe these actions exceed the scope of the project as intended by the City Council when they appointed this committee to help design the Park.  We look forward to a successful completion of the EIS and design process so that the public and citizens of Bellevue can be enjoying this new Park in as short a time as	<b>8G.</b> Comment noted.
,	possible. We stand ready to continue our participation to contribute to this end.  Thank you and Regards for consideration of our comments,	
	Rod Bindon City/Community Relations Committee For Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club	

#### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) City's Response to Comment Letter #9. Mevdenbauer Yacht Club **9A.** Comment noted. See responses to Comment Letter 8, Responses 8B Yevdenbauer Bav through 8E. **9B.** Use of Traffic Model: The standard practice for identifying future year traffic impacts is to determine the expected future land use change, then use a ON BEAUTIFUL LAKE WASHINGTON MAIL ADDRESS....PO. BOX 863 Letter #9 travel demand forecasting model (like the Bellevue-Kirkland-Redmond, or BKR BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON 98009 model) to determine needed transportation network improvements. A traffic operations model (such as Synchro) is often used to determine the predicted intersection level of service, any intersection impacts, and necessary mitigation. The projected background traffic volumes built into the 2020 forecast model are based on existing (year 2008/2009) traffic counts. Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager July 20, 2009 Development Services Department Impacts on traffic due to closure of 100th Avenue SE: As identified in the Draft City of Bellevue P.O. Box 90012 EIS, most of the growth in traffic volumes along Main Street by 2020 will be a Bellevue, Wa. 98009-9012 result of background growth, which will be reflected in the No-Action Re: Submission of written comments Alternative. The Level of Service (LOS) at the intersection of Main Street at Meydenbauer Bay Park DEIS June 2009 100th Avenue SE, during the 2020 p.m. peak No Action scenario is projected to be LOS C. The closure of 100th Avenue SE as described in Alternatives 1 and 2 Dear Mr Paine (and the Preferred Alternative) improves the LOS at this intersection because The following are in addition to our verbal comments previously delivered on June 23, 2009: vehicular movement is reduced (including the elimination of traffic south of Since the beginning of the Park planning process almost two years ago, Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club has Main Street). Under Alternatives 1 and 2 (and the Preferred Alternative), had four main goals, in addition to doing our part to help in the planning. These are as follows: additional trips are diverted to 101st Avenue SE, which degrades the LOS at 1. Preserve access and circulation in the area of 100th Ave. S.E., Main St., Meydenbauer Way S.E. and the that intersection. With Alternative 2 (which has slightly higher impacts to traffic as compared to Alternative 1) the LOS at Main Street / 101st Avenue SE 2. Retain as much public moorage in the Bay as possible. worsens from LOS C (under No Action), to a LOS E. There is an increase of 121 3. Ensure minimal impact to our Youth Sailing program from transient boaters using the park. vehicles during the p.m. peak hour on 101st Avenue SE (south of Main Street) 4. Improve the water quality in the Bay by encouraging the City to take responsibility for and reduce under Alternative 2, including an additional 72 vehicles in the northbound siltation from Meydenbauer Creek, the various City storm sewer outfalls, and for the City to take the lead in the control of milfiol and other noxious and invasive weeds. direction (or 1.2 vehicles per minute), and an additional 49 vehicles in the southbound direction. The Draft EIS identifies potential mitigation that can be Our comments are as follows: used to improve traffic flow on Main Street and at this intersection in The DEIS does not adequately address the impacts which would result from the closure of 100th Ave. S.E.. particular, including a signal and westbound left turn lane. These It is clear after having read the traffic portion of the DEIS, that the EDAW traffic consultants figures and improvements would require the removal of some on-street parking on Main conclusions in the area of Main St. and 100th Ave S.E. do not approach reality, and their conclusions are flawed. This traffic consultant has publicly stated that his figures are derived from a computer model, not Street. Transportation impacts due to the Preferred Alternative would be actual studies. These figures differ significantly from the City of Bellevue's own traffic engineers, who have concluded and publicly stated that "The traffic at the intersection of Main St. and 100th Ave. S.E. is similar to Alternative 1 and slightly less than Alternative 2. Also see Comment bad and going to get worse, and the closure of 100th Ave S.E. will make it worse, not better." Letter 5, Response 5A. The Bellevue Transportation Commission has concluded and publicly stated "It make no sense for the

# Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment 9B (continued).** Tolls on SR 520: The Draft EIS analysis years included existing conditions and year 2020. The City's BKR Travel Demand Model was used for both years of analysis, and neither included the assumption of tolls on SR 520 for either existing conditions or year 2020. WSDOT has delayed implementation of tolls on SR 520 to the year 2011 at the earliest. There has been no decision to date whether tolls will be implemented on SR 520 only, or also on I-90, or when they would be implemented. If tolls were imposed on both SR 520 and I-90, there would be no diversion of trips from one bridge crossing to the other. If tolls are imposed on SR 520 alone, some diversion of trips would occur. The SR 520 Tolling Report Prepared for the Washington State Legislature (January 28, 2009) examined a number of different tolling scenarios ranging from tolling only SR 520 to tolling both SR 520 and I-90, and also analyzed various toll rates and implementation schedules. In general, if tolling is implemented on SR 520 alone in 2011, the peak period traffic on I-90 will increase anywhere from 2 to 9 percent (1,800 to 8,300 additional trips) depending on the rate and schedule. Direct access routes to I-90, such as Bellevue Way, would experience some increases in traffic volumes. The volume on Bellevue Way is projected to increase from 1 to 3 percent (200 to 500 vehicles) during the peak period, dependent on the rate and schedule. A similar traffic volume increase could occur on Lake Washington Boulevard and Main Street due to trips diverted from the Points communities. People will make other travel decisions including changing travel times, shifting to transit or ridesharing, shifting to I-405 or SR 522, or changing their destination (or telecommuting). The overall effect of the route changes are distributed across the transportation system. To minimize the effects of diversion of trips from SR 520, a number of mitigation measures were identified, including system-wide traffic monitoring, advanced traffic technology, and transit service improvements. The implementation of tolling is a revenue generation tool, but another objective is to manage the time of travel to reduce the congestion that otherwise impedes flow. Graduated tolls that are highest at the peak time of travel have been shown to be effective in shifting trips to times of lesser demand. Toll facilities on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and SR 167 have been well-received by motorists, and no significant diversion of trips has occurred.

#### Letter #9

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City to spend millions of dollars to build a new Park , inviting all the citizens of Bellevue to come and enjoy it, and then make it harder to get to by closing  $100^{th}$  Ave. S.E., and increasing the congestion in the area."

The DEIS traffic studies do not take into account the soon to be imposed tolls on I-520, which will create a massive diversion of traffic through South Bellevue as drivers of cars trucks and buses seek to avoid these tolls by using I-90. This will get even worse during the upcoming construction of the new I-520 bridge.  $100^{th}$  Avc. S.E. provides a small but important relief link in this upcoming major congestion. The State of Washinton DOT has publicly stated "as many as 50% of commuters may elect an alternate route."

B, cont

For the DEIS to ignore these facts is a serious omission that brings into question the accuracy of the entire document.

Closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. would take away the main entrances of the 10,000 Meydenbauer Condominium, the Meydenbauer Apartments, and seriously impact access to the Vue condominium and Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club. This reduction of access could cost lives or severe property loss in the event of a medical emergency, structure fire, or marina fire. Both the Bellevue Fire and Police depts. Are opposed to the proposed closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E.

Closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E. would almost certainly result in legal action by some of the most heavily impacted properties. This could have the effect of delaying the Park for perhaps years in the courts. The citizens of Bellevue do not need a prolonged and devisive legal battle over this issue. They need a Park we can all use, with good access in as short a time as possible.

C

The DEIS does not address the impact that the reduction of public moorage would have on the boating public, the local economy, or the City budget. The stated goal of making Bellevue a "Waterfront City", implies a healthy thriving boating presence. It was tax dollars from boaters that facilitated the State grant which accounted for part of the funds used to buy this property. This was free money, given to the City of Bellevue by the State of Washington and paid for by boaters. To now reduce moorage while using these grant monies is highly inappropriate. We believe that a thriving City marina can coexist with a new park.

The DEIS does not address the impact of the proposed transient moorage, or the need for additional policing and control. It has been clear from their reaction, that the Bellevue Police Dept. has not been even consulted on this matter. Relating an incident which occurred on the MBYC docks in late June will help illustrate this need.

One weekday evening at approximately 9pm., a skiboat occupied by 3males, 2 females and a pit bull came into our docks, accompanied by loud music and a lot of yelling, and demanded to tie up so they could use the bathroom and go up to 7-11 and buy more beer. They were denied access by some of our members. At this point, our members were cursed at, verbally abused and threatened, the members then called 911. The skiboat departed our docks before the Bellevue police arrived, and sat out in the bay yelling, cursing and playing loud music. The Bellevue police came but could do nothing except call for the King Co. Sheriff boat from Kirkland, which arrived about 10:30. It arrested the driver of the boat for DUI and detained the other male occupants. The females and the pit bull then attemped to take the boat back to Newport in the dark, but had to be rescued again, when they developed mechanical problems in the East Channel.

This sort of incident is an almost weekly occurance on our docks and in Meydenbauer Bay. The providing of 14 transient moorage locations within the new park will exacerbate this situation and require significant additional police presence both ashore and on the water. This may require the addition of a police boat to the City inventory.



While the DEIS mentions water quality, and the need for it to be improved, there is no recommended plan for doing so. The amount of siltation that has occurred in Meydenbauer Bay over the last 20 years is

### City's Response to Comment

### 9B (continued)

Impacts on residential access due to closure of 100th Avenue SE: Under alternatives that close 100th Avenue SE, the primary access to the Vue Condominium will remain within the vicinity of its existing primary access, but will require that vehicles use Meydenbauer Way SE. Primary access to Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Condominium is currently from Meydenbauer Way SE. This access point will continue to be open under alternatives that close 100th Avenue SE. The alternatives also assumed eventual redevelopment of the Meydenbauer Apartments, with vehicle access from 101st Avenue SE and Meydenbauer Way SE possible. Access to the Yacht Club is currently from Meydenbauer Way SE, and would continue under alternatives that close 100th Avenue SE. The nearest fire station (Fire Station #1) to the properties of concern is at 766 Bellevue Way SE, located to the south of the study area. Emergency vehicles can access the properties via 101st Avenue SE (from the south) and Meydenbauer Way SE. See also Comment Letter 5, Response 5A.

**9C.** See Comment Letter 5, Response 5F. See also Section 3.2 of the Final EIS. Funds from the State used toward acquisition of the marinas come from the portion of the state motor vehicle tax paid by all recreational boaters.

**9D**. We are not aware of studies supporting the premise that boaters using transient moorage create more problems than boaters at long term moorage.

**9E.** See Comment Letter 8, Response 8E.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
phenomenal. Most of this is from runoff from Meydenbauer Creek due to development upstream and within the drainage basin. Another significant source is from City of Bellevue storm sewer outfalls which empty unrestricted into the Bay. Up to this point, the City has declined responsibility for any of this, and says that what happens beyond the shoreline of the Bay is the responsibility of the State DNR. This may be, but unless something is done soon, the new City park will be located on a swamp, not a Bay, and Bellevue's goal of becoming a "Waterfront City" will be a "Swampfront City". Further contributing to this is the severe increase in mifoil and other invasive aquatic weeds. Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club has been leading the way in permitting for and treatment of this problem. The City has been dragging their feet in following up on these actions.  We urge the City of Bellevue as a part of the New Park, to take the lead in a coalition of Meydenbauer Bay neighbors and property owners to deal with these issues before it is too late. We stand ready to assist the City in this endeavor.	
Sincerely,  Rod Bindon  Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club  Community Relations Committee	
CC: Bellevue City Council	

Letter #10, Bellevue Downtown Association	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
BELLEVUE DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION  Letter #10	
July 20, 2009	
Michael Paine Environmental Plaming Manager Development Services Department City of Bellevue P.O. Rox 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009 RE: Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft EIS Dear Mr. Paine: The Bellevue Downtown Association (BDA) Board of Directors is pleased to respond with general comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the two Alternatives presented for review. The BDA continues to support the City of Bellevue's plan to expand and enhance the Meydenbauer Bay adard waterfront park, along with a well-designed pedestrian connection to Old Bellevue and the Bellevue Downtown Park. Park and open space amenities and the connections they provide are essential to Downtown Bellevue's success as a strong, vibrant urban center.  At this stage, the BDA does not have a favored Alternative between the two in the Draft EIS. However, we would like to share the following observations and make these requests for response during the next stage of review.  1. The BDA commends the past and ongoing work of the Steering Committee and City staff in conducting a thorough planning and public involvement process.  2. We fully support the City's efforts to enhance access to the public waterfront, improve shoreline conditions and water quality, and ensure the future vitality of Old Bellevue and the surrounding neighborhoods.  3. The preferred park Alternative must: demonstrate excellence in urban design, architecture, landscaping and environmental stewardship; provide for a functional and well-designed connection to Old Bellevue and the Downtown Parks (offer adequate on-site parking supply for park users; improve access to a beach and swimming area; respond to demand for adequate public and private moorage; and priviting overall mobility and public selder needs.	

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #10 BDA Letter on Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan DEIS Page 2	
<ul> <li>4. The proposed zoning change to 60 residential units/acre in the areas detailed in both Alternatives appears to be a good approach to attract redevelopment and enhance the positive characteristics of both the Old Bellevue and waterfront neighborhoods.</li> <li>5. For each Alternative, we request a report of the estimated number of annual and monthly visitors to the different areas of the park and marina and the mode of transportation used. We also request a more detailed analysis of each Alternative's impacts on traffic operations and parking availability in the neighborhoods around the Bay and parking requirements and availability in</li> </ul>	<b>10B</b> . Initial estimates for vehicle trips and parking demand were generated based on methods described Comment Letter 2, Response 2D. A more detailed analysis is not appropriate at this time.
the park for park and marina users.  6. The BDA recognizes the concerns of nearby residents who would experience the impacts discussed in the Draft EIS. In light of those concerns and the proposed size, location, and environmental sensitivities associated with an expanded park, we understand the opportunity for new commercial or retail uses may be limited. Yet including some amount of commercial use may provide greater vitality for the park and a measure of ongoing income that could help fund park improvements and/or maintenance. Additional	<b>10C.</b> Comment noted. Economic and market feasibility is beyond the scope of this EIS. However, it is expected that additional feasibility analysis would be conducted at the project level.
environmental, economic and market analyses should report on the feasibility and long-term viability of commercial uses and the degree to which such uses might help in funding the park.  We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the City's planning and environmental review process for the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan. This undertaking will require continued leadership to create a broadly supported Master Plan, as well as an innovative and reasonable finance plan, when the time is right.	
Sincerely,	
Jul Ostrem (eslie Lloyd BDA Board Chair BDA President	
cc: Bellevue City Councilmembers Bellevue City Manager Steve Sarkozy	

Comme	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #	11, PACCAR Inc.	
	Letter #11	
	City of Bellevue Development Services Department P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009 Attn: Michael Paine Subject: Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement File Number: 08-133559-LE	
A	Ladies and Gentlemen:  Following are PACCAR comments on the June 2009 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan.  PACCAR, a global, Fortune-200 company headquartered in Bellevue, has moored our corporate yacht at the Meydenbauer Bay Marina ("Marina") since 1973. The proximity of the Marina to our corporate headquarters in downtown Bellevue provides our guests excellent access to our corporate yacht. On an annual basis we have approximately 450 guests access the Marina for events on our vessel. PACCAR and our guests appreciate Meydenbauer Bay and feel our use embodies many of the goals expressed in the Comprehensive Plan and Parks and Open Space System Plan 2003 (Comprehensive Plan).	11A. Comment noted.
В	While we are generally in favor of the Park and Marina upgrades being developed, we have concerns with the DEIS that we believe should be addressed.  Long-Term Moorage - DEIS Alternatives 1 and 2 reduce the number of long-term moorage slips at the Bellevue Marina from 87 to 40 or 25 to 35 depending on alternative. This is a reduction of up to 70%. The number of transient slips remains the same under all alternatives. The DEIS does not appear to have evaluated impact or benefit of reduction in long-term slips other than a typical remark found under Parks and Recreation, Table 1.4-1 "No significant unavoidable impacts." Reducing the amount of moorage impacts Land Use, Shorelines, Parks and Recreation and Bellevue Park's Department revenue. The significant potential impact should be evaluated and considered in the DEIS. PACCAR made this comment during EIS scoping in our letter dated November 11, 2008.	<b>11B.</b> All action alternatives evaluated in the EIS reduce the amount of leased long-term moorage and provide for people-powered vessels (PPVs). All alternatives provide 14 transient slips, broadening the range of boating and public access to the shoreline. Benefits to water quality, near shore habitat, and fish are realized by reducing the extent of hard edge where Piers 2 and 3 connect to the shore and restoring a contiguous stretch of shoreline.

### Letter #11

Environmental Impact Statement File Number: 08-133559-LE June 29, 2009 Page 2

DEIS Specific Land Use Questions / Comment:

- С
- > What is the impact/benefit on Land Use (DEIS section 3.4.2) of reductions to long-term moorage under Alternatives 1 and 2?
- D
- ➤ What is the impact/benefit to Shorelines (DEIS section 3.5.2) of reductions to long-term moorage under Alternatives 1 and 2?

  Address benefits/impacts to marine and public access.
- E
- What is the impact/benefit to Parks and Recreation (DEIS section 3.6.3) of reductions to long-term moorage under Alternatives 1 and 2? Address benefits/impacts to marine and public access; Bellevue Park's Department revenue and park and recreation opportunities.
- F
- ➤ What is the impact/benefit to Visual Quality (DEIS 3.6.4) of reductions to long-term moorage under Alternatives 1 and 2? Address impact/benefit that boats at the Marina have on the marine nature of the park.

Transportation - The DEIS has not analyzed or planned for the unique requirements of marina vehicle access and parking. The Marina requires vehicle access and parking for tenants, quests and transient users that is close to the berths they serve for people to unload/load gear, perform allowed maintenance, and access boats. The DEIS page 3-112 states that "the current asphalt parking area provides approximately 60 spaces and is fully utilized during summer weekends and special events." Table 3.9-5, page 3-168 states that in the current condition average utilization is 28%. This conflict in current usage should be resolved. The International Marina Institute and other sources recommend from 0.6 to 0.8 parking spaces per berth. Approximately 50 parking spaces are recommended for 87 slips; approximately 25 parking spaces for 40 slips. All Alternatives including the No Action Alternative reduce parking at the Marina from 60 to 6 spaces that are designated for "passenger drop off". Additional parking is provided in garages on the upland but this is not close to the piers in distance or grade. Providing only six parking spaces at one end of the Marina is not adequate. Contrary to the conclusion in the DEIS on page 3-128, combined parking changes will make parking less not more accessible to Marina users and should be reevaluated.

Further, the six stalls are accessed by driving on the pedestrian promenade. We think this creates a serious safety issue. Also, personal propelled users need vehicle assess and storage close to the point of launch.

# City's Response to Comment

- **11C.** The number of long-term moorage slips has little impact on Land Use, except that a reduction in slips requires fewer parking stalls.
- **11D**. Draft EIS page 3-103 begins the analysis of impacts and benefits of Alternative 1, which proposes removing Pier 3. Draft EIS page 3-105 begins the analysis of the impacts and benefits of Alternative 2.
- **11E.** Reducing and reconfiguring long-term moorage allows a variety of park uses and activities to be accommodated, including over-water access for the non-boating public. It also benefits the environment by decreasing over-water coverage and allowing shoreline restoration. Reducing the number of slips could reduce revenue, but also would reduce the cost of managing moorage and maintaining and replacing aging structures.
- **11F.** Reducing the amount of long-term moorage, along with eliminating covered moorage, will open up local views to and from the shoreline. The remaining long-term moorage, along with transient moorage, PPV access and moorage, and pedestrian piers all will contribute to the water-oriented nature of the park and provide more opportunities for water access.
- **11G**. The alternatives evaluated in the EIS all recommend short-term parking stalls at the marina for loading and unloading. The parking stalls will not be accessed across the pedestrian pathway. Project-level design will ensure adequate separation. The EIS also evaluates several additional options for parking, including on-street parking along 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE; in addition, parking is in either of two underground garages, accessed from 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Meydenbauer Way SE, or Lake Washington Boulevard. Bellevue's Land Use Code requires 0.5 parking stall for each moorage slip, which has been calculated into the total parking demand for the park. Providing limited short-term parking stalls immediately adjacent to Pier 1, with additional long-term parking located upland, benefits boaters, other park users, water quality, fish, and near shore habitat by reducing the impervious surface immediately adjacent to the shoreline.

### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #11 Environmental Impact Statement File Number: 08-133559-LE June 29, 2009 Page 3 11H. The text on page 3-112 has been corrected to read, "The asphalt parking area provides approximately 60 spaces and experiences heavy use is fully DEIS Specific Land Use Questions / Comment: utilized during summer weekends and special events (Sasaki 2008)." The text is accurate regarding special events and some summer weekends. Table 3.9-5 H > Resolve conflict in current parking usage between statement on DEIS page 3-112 and table 3.9-5 on utilization. reflects actual parking lot counts, twice daily for two weeks and three weekends in August 2008. The table has been updated to in Section 3.9 of the Analyze and provide details on parking demand for the Marina under all Alternatives. Address specific unique requirements and I Final EIS to include the Preferred Alternative. demands of marina parking; demand for long-term moorage users, transient users and PPV users; and demand for short-term and longer-term parking on weekdays, evenings and weekends. 111. See Final EIS Section 3.9 for an analysis of parking, loading and unloading for all marina boaters. > After Marina parking requirements have been defined, assess benefits/impacts of reductions in Marina parking under all Alternatives. **11J.** See Response 11G, above. Also, refer to Final EIS Section 3.9. > Describe how trash and recycling (and used oil if allowed) will be removed from the Marina. 11K. Facilities for removal of trash, recycling, used oil, etc. will be designed > Traffic Hazard - Analyze and describe how public vehicles will and incorporated at the project level. safely move in and out of Marina parking and pedestrians and bikers will move on the waterfront promenade. 11L. Separation of pedestrian and vehicle traffic is important and will be In summary, PACCAR supports the overall concept of the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan and we look forward to response to issues we raised in carefully designed at the project level. Likely, pedestrian traffic will be the DEIS. directed water-ward to avoid conflict with vehicles. Very truly yours, Daniel N. Lewis Director of Construction & Corporate Services dan.lewis@paccar.com DNL: cc: M. Bergstrom, City of Bellevue Planning & Community Development R. Cole, City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services R.E. Bangert, II D.K. Williams

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #12, Bernstein	
ROBERT BERNSTEIN, P.E. Consulting Transportation Engineer/Planner	
July 20, 2009	
Mr. Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager Development Services Department City of Bellevue P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-90012	
Dear Mr. Paine,	
Attached please find a letter with my comments on the June, 2009, City of Bellevue Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). This letter was prepared on behalf of the Meydenbauer Bay Neighborhood Association.	
If you have any questions or if you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.	
Sincerely,	
Robert Blimber	
Robert Bernstein, P.E.	

### ROBERT BERNSTEIN, P.E.

Consulting Transportation Engineer/Planner

Letter #12

July 20, 2009

Meydenbauer Bay Neighborhood Assn. c/o Mr. Marvin Peterson, President 227 Bellevue Wy NE PMB 278 Bellevue, WA 98004

SUBJECT: Review of traffic and transportation issues associated with proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan in Bellevue, WA

Dear Mr. Peterson,

Per your request, I have reviewed and evaluated the traffic and transportation issues associated with the proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan in Bellevue, WA. I am personally and professionally familiar with the study area and environs, having visited the area numerous times over the years, most recently on July 7, 2009. I have reviewed and evaluated the background information made available by the City, including in particular the June, 2009, City of Bellevue Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Although the DEIS is available, I have not been able to obtain the basic technical background information that should be readily available with any DEIS, including the complete Transportation Technical Report (from which the DEIS transportation sections are excerpted), and the inputs and worksheets for the trip generation, level of service (LOS), intersection queuing and delay, and parking demand calculations whose results are reported in the DEIS. Due to the unique characteristics of the study area (closely-spaced intersections and driveways on Main Street, very limited access into and out of the residential neighborhood south of Main, etc) the completeness and accuracy of the impact analyses cannot be adequately evaluated by City staff, elected officials, or the public without this information.

Based on my personal observations and on my review and assessment of the available traffic/transportation-related information, I have the following comments and conclusions:

#### CONCLUSIONS

The traffic/transportation analysis, as reported in the DEIS, has significant errors and omissions that prevent the DEIS from achieving its primary purpose of providing affected residents and businesses, city officials, and decision-makers with complete and accurate information about the impacts of the proposed Plan. As a result, the DEIS traffic/transportation analysis is inadequate and misleading.

**City's Response to Comment** 

**12A.** <u>Technical Report:</u> A transportation technical report was not prepared as part of the scope of work for the EIS. All of the Synchro files have been provided to the City, which include specific data on level of service, intersection queuing, and delay. Trip generation tables and parking demand tables for the alternatives were provided to the City of Bellevue and are available upon request.

Comm	e	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Lette	er	#12 MBNA July 20, 2009 Page 2	
i r a b	ina mi a. b.	veral key inputs to the quantitative traffic analyses reported in the DEIS are accurate or inappropriate, which has resulted in an underestimation of impacts and tigation requirements:  The intersection analysis software used for the DEIS was not properly calibrated (it did not replicate the existing queuing on Main Street), resulting in an understatement of LOS, delay, and queuing.  The DEIS traffic operations analysis does not include the private driveways on Main Street between Bellevue Way and 100th Avenue, and does not account for effects of traffic entering and exiting those driveways.  The DEIS intersection LOS analyses do not include and account for the effects of queuing.  The DEIS traffic operations analysis does not include the effects of pedestrians	
e	è.	The DEIS intersection LOS analyses overstate the saturation flow rates for left turns, resulting in an understatement of LOS, delay, and queuing.	
f.	ř.	The DEIS traffic analysis does not account for the traffic increases through the study area that will occur when tolls are imposed on SR 520 and traffic diverts to I-90 to avoid the tolls.	
2. T	Γh icα	e traffic/transportation analysis omits important analyses and ignores significant sess, circulation, and safety problems and impacts:	
а		The DEIS overlooks or ignores the impact of Main Street queuing and congestion on neighborhood access: Main Street traffic is an increasingly insurmountable barrier to neighborhood access and egress everywhere east of 100th Avenue.	
b	).	The DEIS has no analysis of traffic impacts or parking needs for episodic events at the proposed park.	
c.		The DEIS has no analysis of a.m. peak hour conditions, when Main Street queuing impacts and neighborhood access constraints are significant.	
d		The DEIS has no analysis of the conditions that will prevail when the proposed park development opens (Year of Opening analysis).	
e.		The DEIS traffic analysis does not report the LOS, delay, and queue lengths for individual movements at study intersections.	

City's Response to Comment

MBNA July 20, 2009

Page 3

Letter #12

- f. The DEIS traffic analysis does not account for the traffic to be generated by developments that have been approved by the City but not yet been occupied and generating traffic (i.e., "pipeline" projects).
- g. The DEIS ignores the degradation of emergency access caused by the closure of 100th Avenue and the elimination of a second access to properties on Meydenbauer Way and 100th.
- In order to maintain the barest minimum level of safe and convenient access into and out of the residential community south of Main Street, 100th Avenue SE must remain open to vehicular traffic between Meydenbauer Way and the signalized intersection at Main Street.
- 4. The City should prepare a focused and comprehensive traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle circulation and safety analysis and plan for Main Street between Bellevue Way and 100th Avenue in order to define how the street should be managed and configured to best serve all its neighbors and users. Such a plan should be developed and adopted before any decisions are made on the proposed Park and Land Use Plan.

#### DISCUSSION

<u>Conclusion 1</u>. Several key inputs to the quantitative traffic analyses reported in the DEIS are inaccurate or inappropriate, which has resulted in an underestimation of impacts and mitigation requirements:

DEIS traffic analyses are based on a whole series of input data, assumptions and estimates that individually and as a group determine the results of the analyses. The input data, assumptions and estimates used by the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan DEIS contain numerous errors and omissions that prevent the DEIS from achieving its primary purpose of providing affected residents and businesses, city officials, and decision-makers with complete and accurate information about the impacts of the proposed Plan.

1.a. The intersection analysis model used for the DEIS was not properly calibrated, resulting in an understatement of LOS, delay, and queuing.

Currently, queues on eastbound Main Street back up from the Bellevue Way and 102nd Avenue signals on a frequent and recurring basis during morning, noon, and evening peak periods, bottling up through, sidestreet, and driveway access west to 100th Avenue. This queuing and congestion will become markedly worse as approved developments on Main Street are completed and occupied.

The intersection analysis model used for the DEIS underestimated delay and queuing under existing conditions, and did not replicate the existing queuing on Main Street. For this reason, it

**12B (Conclusion 1).** See responses to specific items, below.

**12C (1a).** Calibration of Intersection Analysis Software: The intersection analysis was properly calibrated. To prepare future predicted approach/departure volumes, the difference between the 2020 model and the 2008 model was added to the 2008 existing actual approaches and departures. The 2020 predicted approach/departure volumes were then distributed into turning movements based on the proportions of existing turning movements. Once the volumes were prepared, they were then manually adjusted to arrive at a reasonable balance between intersections.

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must be concluded that the intersection analysis model's estimates for future traffic volume and street network scenarios also are understated, and that future delay and queuing will be significantly worse than reported in the DEIS.

1.b. The DEIS traffic operations analysis does not include the private driveways on Main Street between Bellevue Way and 100th Avenue, and does not account for effects of traffic entering and exiting those driveways.

Traffic entering and exiting the private driveways on Main Street between Bellevue Way and 100th Avenue significantly degrade Main Street traffic flow, noticeably exacerbating congestion, access, and queuing problems. Because the intersection analysis model used for the DEIS does not incorporate the driveways and does not include the effects of driveway traffic, the intersection analysis results do not represent actual conditions, and therefore are neither applicable nor meaningful.

 The DEIS intersection LOS analyses do not include and account for the effects of queuing.

The LOS and delay calculations used in the DEIS intersection analyses assume that traffic can move smoothly to and through the intersection: i.e., when the light is green, traffic can get to the intersection and can get out the other side. At the Bellevue Way/Main Street and 102nd Avenue/Main Street intersections, however, queues both strangle access to and clog egress from the intersection, preventing them from operating as assumed by the LOS/delay analysis procedure. As a result, delays and queues at the Main Street intersections are underestimated.

1.d. The DEIS traffic operations analysis does not include the effects of pedestrians crossing at intersections.

Pedestrian crossings at the Bellevue Way/Main Street and 102nd Avenue/Main Street intersections require that through and left-turning traffic be stopped for enough time to allow people to walk safely across the street. This 'pedestrian walk time' can use up finite intersection capacity (green time) that otherwise would be available for vehicular traffic. There is no evidence presented in the DEIS that the vehicular-capacity-reducing effects of pedestrians and pedestrian-related signal timing requirements were accounted for in the DEIS intersection analyses. The result of this analytical oversight is to underestimate delay and queuing.

1.e. The DEIS intersection LOS analyses overstate the saturation flow rates for left turns, resulting in an understatement of LOS, delay, and queuing.

The intersection analysis model used for the DEIS traffic analysis uses a saturation flow rate for turning movements of 1,800 veh/hr as a default value. This flow rate is excessive; actual

# **City's Response to Comment**

**12D (1b).** <u>Private Driveways</u>: The driveways are accounted for in the model. The imbalance between approaches/departures between intersections indicates the vehicles that are entering or exiting driveways between intersections.

**12E (1c).** Queuing: The Draft EIS identified locations where excessive queuing is expected to occur for the initial alternatives, as noted in Section 3.9.2.2. The results for the Preferred Alternative are presented in Section 3.9 of the Final EIS. In addition, individual queue lengths and LOS for each turning movement for all intersections analyzed for Alternative 2 (the worst case) are shown in the chart below (at the end of this letter).

**12F (1d).** <u>Pedestrian Crossings</u>: The Synchro model includes pedestrian signal phasing for all signalized intersections. Crosswalks across Main Street, the area with the greatest amount of congestion, are located at 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE, 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE, midblock between 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE and 103<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, 103<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, and Bellevue Way. With the exception of the midblock crossing, all other crosswalks are at intersections that were analyzed as part of the traffic analysis.

**12G (1e).** Saturation flow rates for left turns: The Synchro model uses the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) recommendation of a saturation flow rate of 1,900 veh/hour as the default value (TRB 2000). A baseline Synchro model was provided by the City of Bellevue, and includes the standard practice of using the default value for the saturation flow rate. At intersections where left turns are present, the saturation flow rate ranges from 1,442 veh/hour to 1,540 veh/hour. These saturation flow rates for left turns are automatically adjusted by the Synchro model.

## Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment MBNA** July 20, 2009 Letter #12 Page 5 saturation flow rates for turns are in the 1,200-1,500 veh/hr range<sup>1</sup>. There is no evidence presented in the DEIS that the correct left turn saturation flow rate was used in the DEIS intersection analysis. Use of a more accurate, reasonable saturation flow rate in the calculations would result in longer queues, greater delay, and poorer LOS. 1.f. The DEIS traffic analysis does not account for the traffic increases through the study area that will occur when tolls are imposed on SR 520 and traffic diverts to 1-90 to avoid **12H (1f).** Effects of Tolls: See Comment Letter 9, Response 9B, above. Traffic analyses prepared by the State Legislature's 520 Tolling Implementation Committee found that peak period traffic volumes on I-90 will increase 5-8% with the imposition of tolls on SR 520 (November Scenario Evaluation, 520 Tolling Implementation Committee, November 10, 2008). Some of this traffic will divert from SR 520 to I-90 via Lake Washington Boulevard and Main Street. Because even a small volume of additional traffic will severely impact alreadyclogged Main Street, it is essential that this diverted traffic be incorporated in the DEIS traffic analysis. Conclusion 2. The traffic/transportation analysis omits important analyses and ignores **12I (Conclusion 2).** See responses to specific items, below. significant access, circulation, and safety problems and impacts. Due to the unique characteristics of the study area (closely-spaced intersections and driveways on Main Street, very limited access into and out of the residential neighborhood south of Main, etc) the completeness and accuracy of the DEIS impact analyses cannot be adequately evaluated - by City staff, by elected officials, or by the public - without the information described below. Furthermore, although many of the impacts of closing 100th Avenue would be addressed in a project-specific analysis at some future stage of development, those impacts are significant and cannot be adequately mitigated, and therefore should be addressed in this DEIS so that an informed decision on the [in]feasibility and [un]desirability of the 100th Avenue closure can be made at this time. 2.a. The DEIS overlooks or ignores the impact of Main Street queuing and congestion on neighborhood access. **12J (2a).** Main Street queuing: See response to 1a, above. Increasingly frequent and longer-duration queuing and congestion on Main Street east of 100th Avenue creates an increasingly insurmountable barrier to neighborhood access and egress by blocking crossing and left turn movements to/from sidestreets and driveways, particularly stop-Research and observation over the years has found that the average headway (i.e., the time gap between vehicles) of traffic moving through intersections at maximum flow rates (saturated conditions) is 1.9-2.0 seconds per vehicle, which translates to 1,800-1,900 vehicles per hour. Similar data for turning movements, however, indicate average headways of 2.5-3.0 seconds per vehicle, which translate to saturation flow rates for turns of 1,200-1,450 vehicles per hour.

Letter #12

**MBNA** July 20, 2009 Page 6

sign-controlled 101st Avenue. The only 'escape' route for the neighborhood south of Main Street is the signalized intersection at 100th Avenue; there are no other options.

2.b. The DEIS has no analysis of traffic impacts or parking needs for episodic events at the

Some uses of the proposed park will generate traffic volumes and parking demands significantly greater than the peak volumes on which the DEIS traffic analyses were based. Such "episodic" uses could occur on a regular weekly or monthly schedule, or they could be annual or single nonrecurring events. Regardless, the impacts of such events should be analyzed, and mitigation measures identified as necessary.

2.c. The DEIS has no analysis of a.m. peak hour conditions, when Main Street queuing impacts and neighborhood access constraints are significant.

Even though the p.m. peak hour may have the highest traffic volumes, and, theoretically, the greatest impacts, the unique characteristics of the street configuration, traffic control, traffic flows, and adjacent development along Main Street result in different but nonetheless significant problems and impacts during the a.m. peak hour. These a.m. peak impacts should be analyzed and addressed.

2.d. The DEIS has no analysis of the conditions that will prevail when the proposed park development opens (Year of Opening analysis).

Even though the DEIS was prepared in support of a proposed Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan amendments, it does contain very specific changes to the street system (e.g., the closure of 100th Avenue south of Main Street) that significantly impact local access and circulation. For this reason, a traffic analysis for the year of opening for the proposed park is needed if the very real impacts of the park master plan are to be understood and addressed.

The Year of Opening analysis should include explicit representation of "pipeline projects" (developments that have been planned/approved, but not yet occupied; see Comment 2.f., below) and the city street improvement projects that are programmed to be completed at the time. (And of course, the city street improvement projects that are programmed for later years should not be included in the analysis.)

2.e. The DEIS traffic analysis does not report the LOS, delay, and queue lengths for individual movements at study intersections.

Main Street between Bellevue Way and 100th Avenue is a congested street that has multiple closely-spaced sidestreets and driveways, and serves multiple functions (commercial access, traffic collection, local access). In such environments, the overall average LOS and delay for individual intersections - as reported in the DEIS traffic analysis - are not meaningful, and because the overall averages for the intersection often mask serious problems on individual lanes

### **City's Response to Comment**

**12K (2b).** Episodic Events: The traffic analysis is based on the p.m. peak hour for a typical day. The City's traffic standards code specifies that the p.m. peak hour be used for traffic analysis to satisfy administrative requirements that are set by policy. Episodic events would occur on rare occasions, and it is difficult to determine the trip generation or parking demand that would occur with these types of events. Like similar events that occur throughout downtown Bellevue (such as the Bellevue Arts and Crafts Fair), it is assumed that a traffic management plan would be used, and that parking would occur at shared spaces near the park. It is also assumed that the City would prepare an overflow parking plan for episodic events, which may include the use of remote or satellite parking lots, such as Park & Ride lots, and transit shuttles. Major activities and special events are more likely to occur on weekends when Park & Ride lots are rarely used.

12L (2c), a.m. Peak Conditions: The traffic analysis is based on the p.m. peak hour for a typical day. The City's traffic standards code uses the p.m. peak to calculate the impacts of the peak period.

12M (2d). Year of Opening Analysis: Year of opening analysis is not typically needed for a programmatic level EIS. The alternatives are conceptual, and it has not yet been determined when the park redevelopment or upland parcel sites would be completed. As the project proceeds to a specific design, projectlevel analysis would be needed prior to permit issuance. The year 2020 traffic analysis generally provides a realistic timeframe for the park to be fully completed and upland parcels to be redeveloped.

12N (2e). Individual movements at intersections: Intersection level of service is generally based on the average delay for all approaches at signalized intersections, and for the worst approach delay for unsignalized intersections. While not reported in the Draft EIS, the individual level of service, gueue lengths, and delay for individual movements are available from the City. The chart at the end of this letter shows the queue lengths and LOS for individual movements for Alternative 2, the alternative with the worst LOS and delays.

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or approaches, the overall averages often are misleading. In order to understand how intersections are truly functioning and what the actual impacts on adjacent properties and neighborhoods are, LOS, delay, and queue lengths are needed for all the individual movements at study intersections. (This information is readily available in the requested intersection analysis software output reports.)

2.f. The DEIS traffic analysis does not account for the traffic to be generated by developments that have been approved by the City but not yet been occupied and generating traffic (i.e., "pipeline" projects).

The traffic forecasts used for the DEIS traffic analysis do not accurately account for the traffic that will be generated by developments that have already been planned/approved, but have not yet been built or occupied (i.e., "pipeline projects," so called because they are in the development 'pipeline'). The traffic generated by such development is not loaded onto the road network in adequate numbers at the appropriate locations (i.e., the driveways on Main Street), and as a result, impacts at intersections and along the length of Main Street are understated.

2.g. The DEIS ignores the degradation of emergency access caused by the closure of 100th Avenue and the elimination of a second access to properties on Meydenbauer Way and 100th.

Redundancy of access and egress is of critical importance for emergency services. When properties have only a single access, emergency access/egress is much more constrained and susceptible to obstruction and delay (e.g., by traffic accidents, parked vehicles, and many other circumstances) than it would be with multiple access options. The proposed closure of 100th Avenue would leave Meydenbauer Way as the only access to a number of properties, thereby degrading emergency access as described above. The DEIS should address these impacts, but does not.

<u>Conclusion</u> 3. In order to maintain the barest minimum level of safe and convenient access into and out of the residential community south of Main Street, 100th Avenue SE must remain open to vehicular traffic between Meydenbauer Way and the signalized intersection at Main Street.

As stated previously, increasingly frequent and longer-duration queuing and congestion on Main Street east of 100th Avenue creates an increasingly insurmountable barrier to neighborhood access and egress by blocking crossing and left turn movements to/from sidestreets and driveways, particularly stop-sign-controlled 101st Avenue. The only 'escape' route for the neighborhood south of Main Street is the signalized intersection at 100th Avenue; there are no other options. Furthermore, none of the mitigation measures considered in the DEIS adequately address the impacts of closing 100th. For these reasons, 100th Avenue must remain open to vehicular traffic between Meydenbauer Way and the signalized intersection at Main Street.

**City's Response to Comment** 

**120 (2f).** <u>Pipeline Projects</u>: The travel demand model used for the traffic analysis assumes the planned / permitted land uses assumed by 2020, which includes projects currently approved by the City.

**12P (2g).** Emergency Access: The nearest fire station (Fire Station #1) to the properties of concern is at 766 Bellevue Way SE, located to the south of the study area. Emergency vehicles can access the properties via 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE (from the south) and Meydenbauer Way SE. Confirmation of emergency access will be required at final design. See Comment Letter 5, Response 5A. The City's emergency service providers have reviewed the action alternatives evaluated in the EIS and have concluded that the looped circulation route provided by Meydenbauer Way SE and the shoreline promenade will allow sufficient emergency access to adjacent properties. Emergency access will be reviewed again at the project level.

**12Q (Conclusion 3).** Need to keep 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Open: 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE is classified as a local street by the City of Bellevue, per the City's Functional Classification. The primary function of a local street is to provide access to adjacent properties of the street. A local street generally should not be used for through purposes.

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Letter #12

Conclusion 4. The City should prepare a focused and comprehensive traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle circulation and safety analysis and plan for Main Street between Bellevue Way and 100th Avenue in order to define how the street should be managed and configured to best serve all its neighbors and users. Such a plan should be developed and adopted before any decisions are made on the proposed Park and Land Use Plan.

Main Street serves as a collector for through and local traffic, as a downtown-style local commercial street for adjacent businesses, and as the primary access for surrounding residential neighborhoods. Main Street also has a multiplicity of closely-spaced sidestreets and driveways. This maelstrom of conflicting traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle activity all happens in a very small area, and properly managing it requires the development of a focused and comprehensive plan for improvements and management measures. This critical task should be undertaken by the City in cooperation with a consortium of local residents and businesses; it should not be left by default to the piecemeal, uncoordinated, and self-interested revisions and modifications proposed by individual developers, both public and private.

Because the condition of Main Street dictates and constrains how access and circulation function in the surrounding area, this Main Street Plan should form the basis for Meydenbauer Bay area Park and Land Use planning, not the other way around, as this process set up. For this reason, the Main Street Plan should be developed and adopted before any decisions are made on the proposed Park and Land Use Plan.

If you have any questions or if you need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert Bernstein, P.E.



Summary of Qualifications. I have Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering (from Georgia Tech and Northwestern University, respectively), and I am a registered professional engineer in Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, and New Jersey. I have over 30 years of transportation planning and traffic engineering experience, including five years with the City of Portland and seven years with the Puget Sound Council of Governments. In these positions and as a private consultant, I have prepared the transportation element for a dozen city and county comprehensive plans and numerous downtown plans, and I have conducted a wide variety of regional and subregional travel demand forecasting studies, traffic operations and safety analyses, and neighborhood traffic management studies. In addition, I have provided on-call development review services for several cities in Oregon, Washington, and California, and over the last 25 years I have provided expert assistance on development-related traffic issues to over 100 community and neighborhood groups.

### City's Response to Comment

**12R (Conclusion 4).** <u>Preparation of Comprehensive Circulation and Safety Analysis:</u> Comment noted.

Alternative 2			NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR
100th Ave NE and NE 1st St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	1	0	0	8	0	0	57	57	57	13	63	63
TOOLIT AVE INC. and INC. 1st St	Level of Service	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Е	Е	ш	D	С	C
102nd Ave NE and NE 1st St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	38	38	38	23	23	23	35	35	35	21	55	55
TOZITO AVE INC. AND INC. 1St St	Level of Service	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α
Bellevue Way and NE 2nd St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	60	174	6	176	502	502	95	230	230	294	240	80
Delievde Way and NE 2nd St	Level of Service	E	В	Α	D	С	С	Е	Е	ш	F	D	Α
99th Ave NE and Lake	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	7	7	7	4	4	4	0	0	0	2	2	2
Washington Boulevard	Level of Service	В	В	В	В	В	В	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α	Α
100th Ave NE and Main St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)				224		10	13	172			120	25
TOUTH AVE INC. and Iviain St	Level of Service				С		Α	Α	В			В	Α
101st Ave NE and Main St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	92		92					0	0	12	12	
TOTS! AVE INC. and Iviain St	Level of Service	Е		Ε					Α	Α	Α	Α	
102nd Ave NE and Main St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	57	57	57	24	60	60	444	444	444	177	177	177
102110 AVE INC. and Ivialit St	Level of Service	С	С	С	С	В	В	В	В	В	Α	Α	Α
103rd Ave NE and Main St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)				10		10	1	1			0	0
10310 Ave INC allu Maili St	Level of Service				С		С	Α	Α			Α	Α
Bellevue Way and Main St	95th Percentile Queue (feet)	250	258	258	107	491	491	199	172	172	392	348	64
Delievue vvay allu Maili St	Level of Service	F	D	D	D	D	D	F	С	C	Е	D	Α

	ent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter	#13, Thorpe (Letter and Public Hearing Transcript)	
	Letter #13 R.W. THORPE & ASSOCIATES, INC.  Seattle • Anchorage • Denver • Winthrop	
	♦ Planning • Landscape • Environmental • Economics ♦	
	PRINCIPALS: Robert W. Thorpe, AICP, President Stephen Speidel, ASLA, Of Counsel  Lindsay Diallo L. A. Jennifer Lee, ASLA Lee A. Michaelis, AICP	
	June 23, 2009	
8	The City of Bellevue 450 110 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-9012	
<i>y</i> .	Attn: City Council Members  Hon. Mayor: Grant Degginger  Claudia Balducci John Chelminiak  Don Davidson Conrad Lee  Patsy Bonincontri	
*2	City of Bellevue Staff:  Michael Brennan  Robin Cole  Michael Paine  Michael Bergstrom  Shelley Marelli	
	Steering Committee  Dough Leigh Betina Finley Bob McMillian  Stefanie Beighle Merle Keeney Marcelle Lynde Rich Wagner	
	4	
	SUBJECT: DRAFT EIS MEYDENBAUER BAY PARK AND LAND USE PLAN	
	Introduction	
A	I appreciate the opportunity to speak briefly this evening. As an introduction to our written comments that will be submitted as part of the response to the Draft EIS. I am Robert W. Thorpe, AICP, President of R. W. Thorpe & Associates – Certified Planners, Landscape Architects, Environmental Analysts and Economists.	13A. Comment noted.
,	We have been requested by the Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association and other citizens groups, to review and comment on the Draft EIS, and make recommendations in the area of our expertise – land use, historical and visual impacts, economics, street design, landscape architecture, etc.	
	*	

Letter #13

SUBJECT: DRAFT EIS MEYDENBAUER BAY PARK AND LAND USE PLAN June 23, 2009

Page 2 of 3

A, cont

We bring a long term perspective to this analysis – in the middle 1970's I served as the Assistant Planning Director at Mercer Island as one of the staff members coordinating the Lake Washington Shorelines Management Program including areas like Mercer Island shoreline and Kirkland's waterfront. Meydenbauer Bay was part of discussions about the future uses of the Bay. Later, in 1985 our firm was part of a team to develop the South Bellevue Subarea Plan and EIS, and later the environmental checklist for the citywide park plan. The firm has been involved in numerous planning and development issues in Bellevue, continuously for over 30 years. Our recent experience includes a review of the East Link Light Rail DEIS on behalf of numerous property owners, neighborhood groups and citizens, to aid a proper analysis and protect land uses, transportation, and citizens in the City of Bellevue.

Our goal is to provide an objective look at the issues, suggest mitigation measures for various proposals, for where the impacts may be significant, and not likely "mitigatable", therefore suggest a policy change in the adopted Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan.

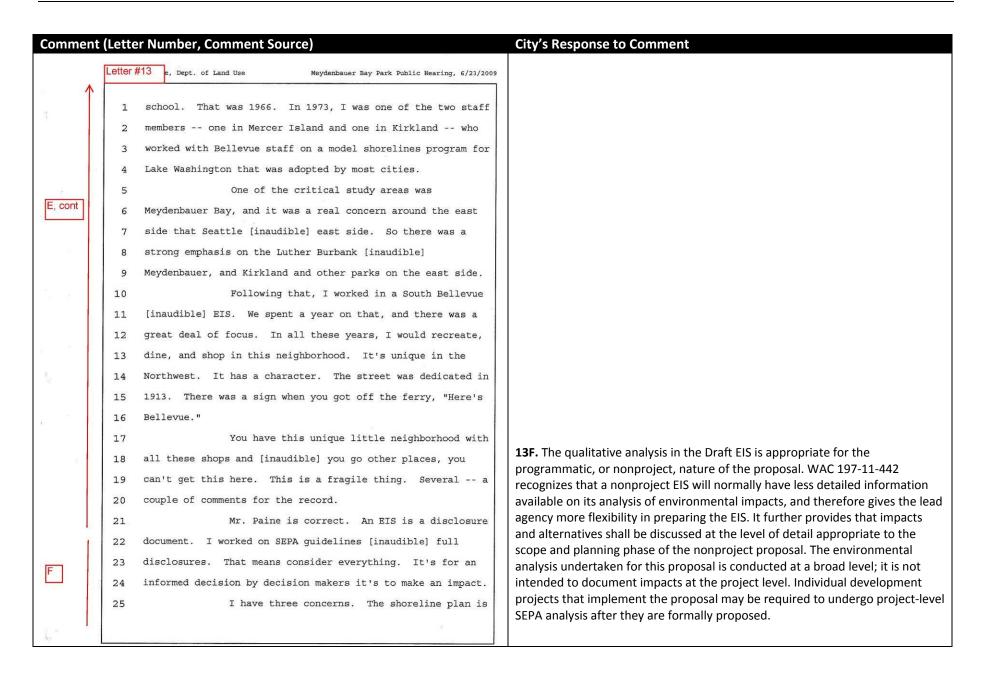
R. W. Thorpe & Associates and the Neighborhood Association trust these comments will be a constructive addition to your process.

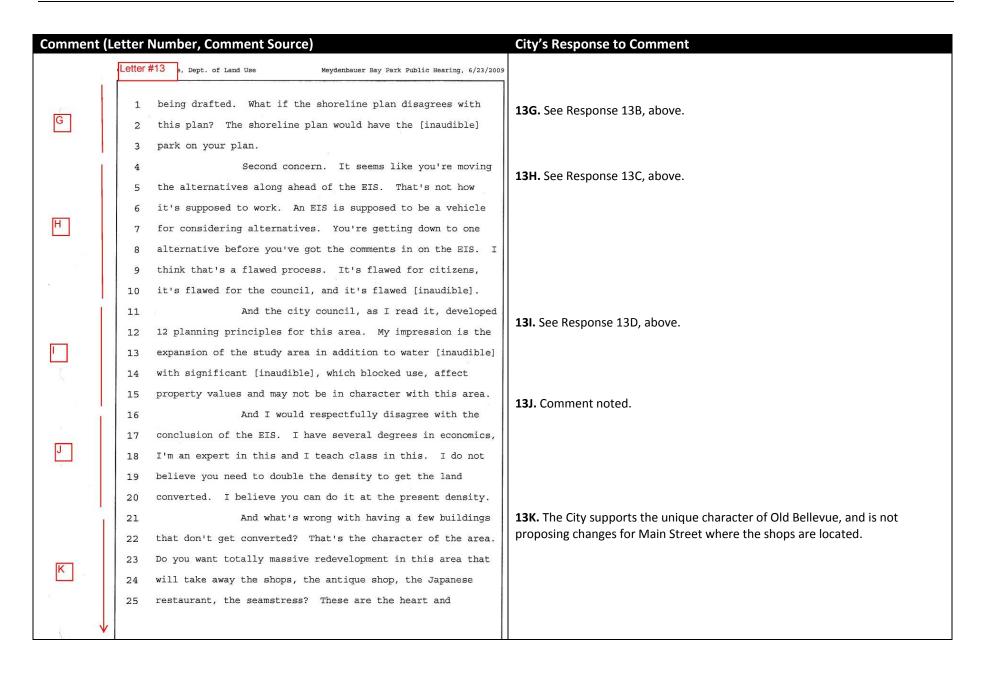
- The City of Bellevue Shoreline Master Plan is currently being updated, with final adoption forecast to occur in mid 2010. Not all of the Draft Policies and Regulations which affect the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan & subsequent Draft EIS have been adopted by the City of Bellevue. Inconsistency may occur between the two plans.
- В
- Approval of the updated Shoreline Master Plan must be obtained from the Washington State Department of Ecology. Other legal requirements which the City of Bellevue must fulfill have not occurred, such as the Public Approval Process of the SMP scheduled to begin in August 2009.
- C
- The Steering Committee (according to the meeting held last week) was to begin to deliberate on its recommendation of "Preferred Alternative" on June 30, 2009. This date is well before the public comment period closes on July 20, 2009. This is somewhat unusual to weigh the alternatives before public opinion is in.
- D
- ➤ The City Council adopted twelve planning principles to help guide the Meydenbauer Bay Plan in March 2007. Our review of the resulting Alternatives 1 & 2 in the DEIS including the expanded study rezone area appear to be an expansion (i.e., departure) from the Policy direction given to staff and the Steering Committee by the City Council. The DEIS's qualitative analysis of land use, historical, views, light & glare, and natural systems tends to underestimate the true impacts on this unique historic neighborhood of Bellevue.

# **City's Response to Comment**

- **13B.** The EIS is a programmatic analysis, and no project-level design is scheduled to occur prior to the adoption of the Shoreline Master Program Update. The alternatives evaluated in the EIS are consistent with Shoreline Management Act goals to recognize and protect the state-wide interest over local interest; preserve the natural character of the shoreline; result in long-term over short-term benefit; protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline; increase public access to publicly owned areas of the shorelines; and increase recreational opportunities for the public in the shoreline. Compliance with specific regulations that will result from the Shoreline Master Program Update process will be ensured through project-level permitting.
- **13C.** The Steering Committee schedule included three meetings to develop a Preferred Alternative. The June 30, 2009, meeting took place after the Draft EIS public hearing, which was attended by all committee members. The July 28 and 30, 2009, meetings took place after the close of the comment period. All Draft EIS comments were received and reviewed by committee members prior to the July meetings and prior to the committee finalizing a Preferred Alternative. The selection of a Preferred Alternative is not an action under SEPA. Also see Comment Letter 2, Response 2B.
- **13D.** On January 22, 2007, the City Council adopted a land use moratorium covering 13 parcels of land within the study area to enable the planning process to proceed within a stable planning environment. Figure 1.1-2: *City Council Approved Study Areas* is found on page 1-7 of the Draft EIS (and is also included in the Final EIS). The Council adopted a set of planning principles to guide the project and confirmed a Steering Committee on March 19. The Council also approved the study area boundaries, which incorporate the lands affected by the proposal. The qualitative analysis contained in the Draft EIS is appropriate for a programmatic-level EIS.

Comme	nt (Let	ter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
1	r#13		
		AFT EIS MEYDENBAUER BAY PARK AND LAND USE PLAN	
June	23, 2009	Page 3 of 3	
		oviding written comments on the DEIS prior to the July 20th deadline.	
		the opportunity to speak this evening.	
Respo	Thorne	ubmitted, & Assoc., Inc	
	~		
Da	nut i	W. Thorpe	
	rt W. The	orpe, AICP	
	le, WA 9		
cc: M	1eydenba	auer Bay Neighborhood Association	
	13	Letter #13 ROBERT THORPE: Mr. Paine, good evening.	<b>13E.</b> Comment noted.
63	14	Staff members and steering committee members. I have a	
0	15	letter for you. I appreciate the opportunity to speak this	
	16	evening.	
	17	I'm Robert Thorpe, AICP president of the	
	18	[inaudible] of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Analysis	
	19	and Economics. We've been requested by Meydenbauer Bay	
	20	Neighbors Association and other citizens groups to view the	
	21	following draft EIS. I'm going to finish with some comments	
	22	about the character of the area.	
	23	I'll take you on a journey. When I first	
E	24	moved to the Seattle area I lived in [inaudible] for a while	
	25	before I started working at Boeing before I went to graduate	
•	<u></u>		





Comment	(Letter Number, Comment Source)  Letter #13 e, Dept. of Land Use Meydenbauer Bay Park Public Hearing, 6/23/200	City's Response to Comment
K, cont	chiter#13 character this is part of Bellevue, and when the South Bellevue Way study was done and the downtown, there was a deal we were going to keep Bellevue Way a unique character. You may be embarking on a journey that undercuts years of history and years of planning [inaudible].  I have been a witness to this for over 40 years, and I have a concern here. So, please do this carefully. Take your time. This is a 100-years-old neighborhood. Take an extra month or two or three. Maybe even wait until your shoreline plan is done, and do this right.  I live on Mercer Island. I've lived in Renton, and I have a family member who helped plan Coulon rank [inaudible] official. That person would look back and say we got a lot more than we expected. You have a journey. Look at Luther Burbank. People proposed restaurants there, and the Friends of Luther Burbank Park said no, and the city council said no. You can choose to keep what you have someplace between Luther Burbank Park or make a cheap Coulon Park. It is your choice, but you have a lot of neighbors who have lived here a long time, some of them for decades, who have invested in this community. You have a lot of people on the shoreline old families who are very involved in this community. I would respect that community, honor their history, and honor your own history.  Thank you for listening to me.	13L. Comment noted.
Letter #14	1, Thorpe	See Table 4-4, page 4-127

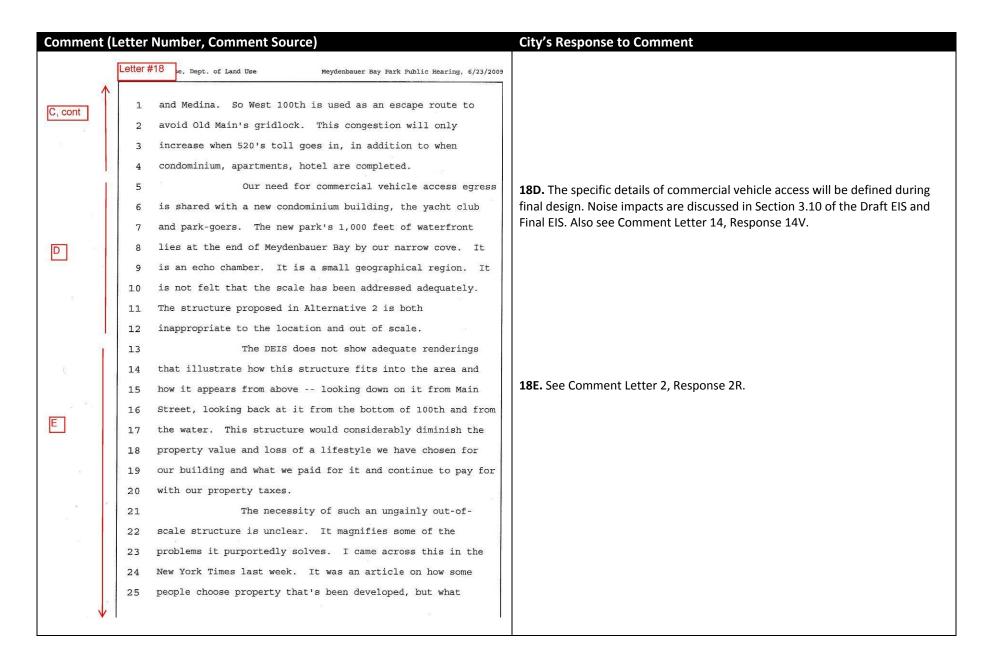
	t (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
ter #16	5, Dichter	
	Letter #16	
	DEIS HEARING JUNE 23, 2009 - MARINA COMMENTS	
		<b>16A.</b> The Bellevue Marina was purchased for development of a citywide
	THE STATE OF THE S	waterfront park. A marina financial plan was developed in 1998 with the goal
	MY NAME IS AARON DICHTER AND I LIVE AT 10000 MEYDENBAUER WAY SE, A CONDOMINIUM ADJACENT TO THE PARK DEVELOPMENT IN	of operating the marina over a 20-year period to cover the debt service on
	BELLEVUE.	general obligation bonds sold for part of the acquisition. Costs for maintenan
	BELLE VOE.	
1	TONITE I WISH TO ADDRESS THE MARINA ASSETS THAT THE CITY	and operation of the marina and debt service were factored into the plan, bu
Α	OWNS. CURRENTLY THIS ASSET PROVIDES NET REVENUE TO OUR CITY	no funding was identified for capital work necessary to maintain the function
	OF ALMOST \$100,000/YR AFTER OPERATING COSTS AND DEBT PAYMENTS, AFTER THE DEBT IS RETIRED IT WILL NET CLOSE TO	and integrity of the piers themselves. Cash flow projections for future years a
	\$350,000/YR IN TODAYS DOLLARS. THIS REVENUE SOURCE WILL PERMIT	estimates only, and will likely change over time due to potential changes in the
	THE CITY TO USE THOSE FUNDS FOR MARINA AND PARK	marina rental market, additional infrastructure needs at the marina, and
	MAINTENANCE WELL INTO THE FUTURE. THE MARINA HAS BEEN A	changing operating costs for utilities, personnel, and contracted services ove
	BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR DECADES. THERE IS NOWHERE	
	ELSE TO GO THAT RIVALS THE CHARM, CHARACTER AND HISTORY	the next 10 years.
В	THAT IS MEYDENBAUER BAY AND THE MARINA. YOU CAN TAKE THE ROOFS OFF BUT KEEP THE MARINA.	
	ROOFS OFF BUT REEF THE MARRIA.	<b>16B.</b> The removal of all pier roofs is proposed under all action alternatives. The removal of all pier roofs is proposed under all action alternatives.
1	THE CITY AND ITS' CONSULTANTS INDICATE THAT THEY RECOGNIZE	will change the immediate marina views, but it does not change the long-term
	THE EXISTENCE AND VALUE OF OUR BOATING COMMUNITY. THIS IS	moorage use.
	ILLUSTRATED IN CERTAIN ALTERNATIVES ENCOURAGING USE OF	moorage ase.
	KAYAKS, CANOES, ROWBOATS, PADDLE BOATS, RACING SHELLS AND SIGNIFICANTLY, TRANSIENT MOORAGE, WITH ASSOCIATED	
С	ACCOMMODATIONS CREATED EXCLUSIVELY FOR SAME SUCH AS	
	STORAGE AREAS AND A NEW TRANSIENT DOCK. HOWEVER THEY SEEM	<b>16C.</b> The action alternatives evaluated in the EIS strike a balance between
	TO TURN A "BLIND-EYE" TO THE VALUE OF PERMANENT MOORAGE	long-term and transient moorage, public access, and shoreline restoration. N
- 1	WHICH CREATES A SIGNIFICANT REVENUE SOURCE AND ALREADY	exclusive facilities for individuals are proposed for transient boaters or peopl
	EXISTS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS TO SATISFY THE NEEDS OF THAT SECTION OF OUR BOATING COMMUNITY.	powered vessels, although areas will be dedicated to those uses. Only long-
	NEEDS OF THAT SECTION OF OUR BOATING COMMUNITY.	term moorage has exclusive use and access of the moorage piers. Also, see
1	IN REVIEWING WHAT OTHER CITIES IN OUR REGION ARE DOING IN	
	THE AREA OF PERMANENT MOORAGE I'LL BRIEFLY MENTION, BUT	Response 16A, above.
	COULD EXPAND UPON, THAT EXPANSION OF PERMANENT MOORAGE	
	HAS RECENTLY OCCURRED IN TACOMA, EVERETT, KENNEWICK, BELLINGHAM, EDMONDS, OLYMPIA AND BREMERTON. IN THE CASE OF	
D	BREMERTON, IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE EXPANSION	
	OCCURRED UNDER A MAYOR, CARY BOZEMAN, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY	16D. Comment noted.
	SERVED AS A MAYOR OF BELLEVUE AND TODAY IS THE NEW MANAGER	2001 Comment noted.
	OF THE EXPANDED BREMERTON MARINA. THIS "BEGS" THE QUESTION;	
	IF ALL THESE CITIES LEADERS SEE PERMANENT MOORAGE AS AN ASSET TO THEIR CITIES' LIFESTYLE, NEEDS AND ATTRACTIVENESS	
	WHY WOULD OUR CITY CONSIDER REMOVING OR CURTAILING THIS	<b>16E.</b> All action alternatives evaluated in the EIS acknowledge the historic
	VALUABLE REVENUE AND LIFESTYLE ASSET. THERE IS ALSO AN	nature of the marina, through the adaptive reuse of the Whaling Building as
E	HISTORIC VALUE WHEN ONE LOOKS BACK TO OUR WHALING	historic and cultural maritime center.

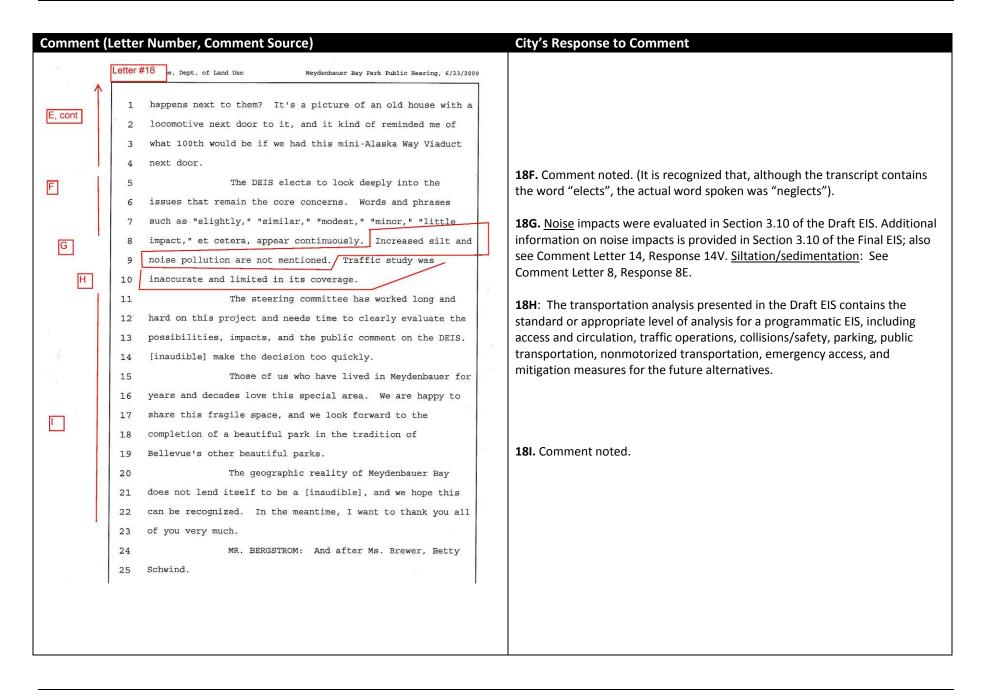
Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #16 HISTORY.	
THE CITY COUNCILS' VISION IS TO HAVE THE PARK ACT AS TH CITIES' CONNECTION TO THE WATER. MOORAGE PROVIDES EXTHAT; AN IMPORTANT LINK FOR BELLEVUE CITIZENS TO MOO BOATS AT THE PARK AND HELPS TO BRING THOSE CITIZENS TO PARK AND LAKE WASHINGTON TO ENJOY THEIR BOATS WITH FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, OFTEN BELLEVUE CITIZENS. IT SEEMS BACKWARDS TO US TO FORCE THOSE BELLEVUE CITIZENS TO MOORAGE IN A DIFFERENT CITY AND TAKE THEM AWAY FROM MEYDENBAUER BAY WHEN PART OF THE FOCUS IS TO MAKE TAWATERFRONT DESTINATION.	THEIR THEIR FIND  16F. The action alternatives evaluated in the EIS broaden the spectrum of boaters who can access the park by boat.
ON A PERSONAL OBSERVATION, AS A BOATER I HAVE VISITED KIRKLAND MANY TIMES BY BOAT TO SHOP AND GO TO DINNER DO THAT TODAY I WILL BE CHARGED \$20/ VISIT FOR MY SIZE B FOR THAT PRIVELEGE.	16G. Comment noted.
IN TALKING TO ONE OF THE DOCK MONITORS IN KIRKLAND, H INDICATED THAT MOST BOATERS TO KIRKLAND USE THE ONE FREE MOORAGE TO STAY ON THEIR BOATS AND THEN LEAVE I THAN PAY A FEE, NOT UNLIKE MYSELF. WHAT THIS SAYS TO M THAT BELLEVUES' TRANSIENT MOORAGE WILL BE A MAGNET THOSE BOATERS. THIS IS NOT WHAT SHOULD BE ENVISIONED I SMALL BAY.	HOUR RATHER IE, IS FOR ALL
THE BELLEVUE MARINA IS THE ONLY PUBLIC MARINA IN THE AND ALL DOCKS, 1, 2 AND 3 SHOULD BE RETAINED TO ACCOMM THE NEEDS OF OUR BOATING COMMUNITY AND THE AMBIENC PROVIDES TO ALL OUR CITIZENS.	IODATE TOTAL COMMENT NOTED.
REMEMBER THAT PERMANENT MOORAGE HOLDERS MAKE FO NEIGHBORS AND AN UNOFFICIAL SECURITY PRESENCE.	OR GOOD

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
etter #17, Dichter	
Letter #17	
Bergstrom, Michael	
From: Aaron [adichter@comcast.net] Sent: Monday, July 13, 2009 11:06 AM To: Bergstrom, Michael Subject: DEIS Comments	
TO: MICHAEL PAINE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING MANAGER	
CITY OF BELLEVUE, DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT	
P.O. BOX 90012	
BELLEVUE, WA. 98009-9012	
CC: MAYOR GRANT DEGGINGER, THE CITY COUNCIL, THE STEERING COMMITTEE, STEVE SARKOZY, MATT TERRY, PATRICK FORAN, MIKE BERGSTROM, ROBIN COLE	
	8
RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT - MEYDENBAUER BAY PARK AND LAND USE PLAN	
DEAR MR PAINE:	
IN COMMENTING ON THE DEIS WE MUST FIRST REFERENCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS RATHER TORTUROU BUT UNFINISHED JOURNEY. I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE; THE CITY STAFF, THE STEERING COMMITTEE, THE PAID CONSULTANTS, (BOTH PAST AND PRESENT) AND THE TAXPAYERS/CITIZENS/OWNE OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE OF THE CONDITIONS ESTABLISHED BY OUR CITY COUNCIL FOR THE REFERENCED PARK.	17A. Comment noted.
FIRST THE "STEERING COMMITTEE CHARGE" IN PART READS:	
ALL ASPECTS OF ANY ISSUE SHOULD BE FULLY CONSIDERED BEFORE DRAWING CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. THE STEERING COMMITTEE SHOULD ALSO PARTICIPATE IN BROADER PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS ON THE PROJECT, ENSURING THAT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IS ENGAGED IN THE PROCESS AND THE RELEVANT INTERESTS ARE CONSIDERED AND APPROPRIATELY ADDRESSED.	
APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL MARCH 19, 2007	
ON THE SAME DATE THE COUNCIL ALSO PUBLISHED TWELVE PLANNING PRINCIPLES TO HELP GUIDE THE PARK AND LAND USE PLAN OF WHICH, ITEM TEN OF TWELVE, IS TITLED "NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION".	
THE LAND USE COMPONENT SHOULD BE A CATALYST FOR REVITALIZATION OF OLDER USES <u>WHILE</u> <u>MINIMIZING IMPACTS ON NEIGHBORING RESIDENTIAL AREAS</u> THE LAND USE PLAN SHOULD ENSURE	

### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** THROUGH RULES OR INCENTIVES THAT THESE ACTIONS OCCUR IN A MANNER THAT IS BOTH CONSISTENT WITH THE AREA'S LAND USE VISION AND SENSITIVE TO ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL USES. HAVING ATTENDED MOST OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND HEARD THE PUBLIC; THE TAXPAYERS/CITIZENS/OWNERS OF THE CITY MAKE THE SAME COMMENTS, TIME AND TIME AGAIN, IT APPEARS THAT THE CITIZENRY HAS NOT BEEN SERVED BY THIS PROCESS. THE TAXPAYERS WANT 100<sup>TH</sup> SE OPENED TO TRAFFIC TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY SOUTH OF MAIN AND SPECIFICALLY OUR HOME, WHOSE 17B. The impacts of road closure were evaluated in the Draft EIS. All action FRONT DOOR IS ON 100<sup>TH</sup> SE. THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE, CITY STAFF AND HIRED CONSULTANTS AND THE MATTER IS NEVER ADDRESSED NOR MITIGATED DURING THE alternatives retain access to Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. See Comment Letter PAST TWO + YEARS. ARE ANY OF THESE ENTITIES DOING THEIR JOB BASED ON THE DIRECTION FROM THE CITY COUNCIL? THEY ALL APPEAR TO BE LIKENED TO THE STEPFORD WIVES AND HAVE TOTALLY IGNORED 5, Response 5A. THE DIRECTION RECEIVED FROM THE CITY COUNCIL WHICH VIOLATES THEIR CHARGE. IT APPEARS NECESSARY THAT THE BASICS OF EVERYDAY LIVING AND ENJOYMENT OF ONES' HOME MUST BE REGURGITATED TO IMPRESS UPON THEM THE HARM THAT IS BEING PLACED ON THE SANCTITY OF ONES' HOME. LEAVE VEHICLE ACCESS TO OUR FRONT DOOR IN PLACE! **17C.** Your preference concerning the retention of long-term moorage is IN ADDITION TO LEAVING $100^{\text{TH}}$ SE OPEN TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT PERMANENT MOORAGE FACILITIES. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY AND ADDS acknowledged. All alternatives evaluated in the EIS maintain much of the TO THE AMBIENCE OF THE BAY. THE MOORAGE ARE EXPENSIVE ASSETS AND SHOULD NOT BE TRIVIALIZED. THE INCOME DERIVED FROM MOORAGE WILL HELP MAINTAIN THE PARK GROUNDS WELL INTO THE FUTURE existing long-term moorage, in addition to providing 14 transient moorage AND WILL ALWAYS ATTRACT ALL PARK USERS. ALSO PERMANENT MOORAGE HOLDERS ARE GOOD NEIGHBORS AND REPRESENT AN INFORMAL SECURITY PRESENCE TO THE PARK. THERE HAS BEEN RECENT slips as required by State funding sources. The No-Action Alternative evaluates POLICING ISSUES IN THE BAY ALERTED BY PERMANENT MOORAGE HOLDERS, SPECIFICALLY FROM THE the retention of existing public moorage. YACHT CLUB, WHICH RESULTED IN AN ARREST AND TICKETING OF SOME TRANSIENT BOATERS FOR THEIR BEHAVIOR. MORE OF THE SAME WILL OCCUR IN THE FUTURE WHEN THE TRANSIENT MOORAGE PIER IS PUT IN PLACE. IT WILL NOT BE A COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE TO THE CITY WHILE PERMANENT MOORAGE IS AN THE SUGGESTION TO HAVE AN ELEVATED VIADUCT IN THE VICINITY OF 100<sup>TH</sup> SE IS AN ABOMINATION TO THE SANCTITY OF THE BAY AND THE IMAGE OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE. IF IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE CITY TO DESTROY THE VIEWS WE HAVE PAID FOR OVER THE PAST TWENTY YEARS WHILE ALSO TAKING OUR 17D. Comment noted. ACCESS TO OUR FRONT DOOR THEN PERHAPS LEGAL COUNSEL WILL BE NECESSARY. THE STEERING COMMITTEE HAVING IGNORED THEIR CHARGE FROM THE CITY COUNCIL HAVE ALREADY COST MANY CITIZENS NOT ONLY IN TIME BUT DOLLARS OUT OF POCKET TO DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS AND LIFESTYLE. BE CLEAR, WE ARE IN FAVOR OF A PARK AS A TRUE PARK; NOT A DISNEYLAND OR CONEY ISLAND. THE PLANNING TO DATE IS WORTHLESS UNLESS ONE RECOGNIZES THAT IT REPRESENTS ALL THE THINGS THAT 17E. Comment noted. THE CITIZENS DO NOT WANT IN THEIR PARK. RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED AARON DICHTER EDITH DICHTER

	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source) 18, Ebsworth (Public Hearing Transcript)	City's Response to Comment	
	21 Letter#18 PAM EBSWORTH: Good evening. My name is Pam 22 Ebsworth, and I live at and am representing tonight 10000		
	23 Meydenbauer Way Condominium. I want to thank Mike, Mike,		
	24 Jan, Robin and [inaudible].		
	25 MR. BERGSTROM: Can you move the mic a little		
		<b>18A.</b> Comment noted.	
(	1 closer?		
	2 PAM EBSWORTH: We fully support and welcome		
A	3 the park. A park to us and most in this room follows		
	4 Webster's definition: A piece of ground in or near nearby a		
	5 city or town kept for ornament or recreation. An area		
	6 maintained in its natural state as a public property.		
	7 We do not see the park as an extension of		
	8 downtown commercial atmosphere. We want to see that the		
	9 historic nature of Meydenbauer Bay is highlighted as well as		
	10 the bay's natural attributes and plentiful wildlife. Where		
	11 on this earth do you see eagle, osprey, great blue herons,		
	12 otters, beavers, muskrats, turtles, et cetera, a few blocks		
190.0	13 from 40-store buildings? This is a special legacy to		
7	14 preserve and that should be our city's mandate.		
1	15 Our building has deep concerns. For two		
	16 years the alternative plans have shown the removal of our		
	17 Street Southwest 100th. Our front door is located on this		
В	18 street and is used by our guests, service people, mail	<b>18B.</b> The impacts of road closure were evaluated in the Draft EIS. All action	
	19 carriers, UPS, FedEx, for delivery of a new refrigerator,	alternatives retain access to Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. See Comment Letter	
27	20 medical emergency vehicles, and the fire department. We	5, Response 5A.	
	21 often have guests who come that may be handicapped and		
	22 walking up that steep hill from the bottom [unclear] through		
	23 a wheelchair.		
1	24 Our concern for the closure of our street is	<b>18C.</b> See Comment Letter 8, Response 8B. Additional information on traffic	
С	25 shared by those who live in South Bellevue, West Bellevue,	impacts is provided in Section 3.9 of the Draft and Final EIS.	





	`	Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Let	ter #19, Ebsw	ortn	
	From: Sent: To: Cc:	Pamebswort@aol.com Monday, July 13, 2009 11:40 AM Paine, Michael Degginger, Grant; Balducci, Claudia; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Bonincontri, Patsy, Sarkozy, Steve; Terry, Matthew; Foran, Patrick; Bergstrom, Michael; Cole, Robin; skbeighle@comcast.net; half@senecagroup.com; Betinaf-@aol.com;	
	Letter #19  Subject: Attachments:	merlekee@man.com; dougl@mithun.com; mlynde@geoengineers.com; bmacllc@comcast.net; kpaulich@wpblaw.com; davids@sterlingreally.com; iristocher@comcast.net; stuvhc@nwlink.com; rich@wagnermanagement.com; sandrabmorrison@msn.com; adichter@comcast.net; studiogeorgette@mac.com; Pamebswort@aol.com; crmadison@msn.com; CarandGordo@aol.com Personal Comments on the DEIS-Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan 10000DEISComments doc	
		invironmental Planning Manager Developmental Services Department 3009-9012	
		iginger, the City Council, members of the Steering Committee, Steve Sarkozy, k Foran, Mike Bergstrom, Robin Cole	
	RE: Personal Comm Land Use Plan	ents on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Meydenbauer Bay Park &	
	Dear Mr. Paine:		
	my Homeowners Ass wish to preface my co realtor explained a pa	personal observations that I wish to add to the comments on the DEIS which you have received from ociation, Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. I have attached the Homeowners document to this email. I omments with the fact that I welcome the park. When I bought my condominium in 1996, my ark would be developed next door. I was delighted. I look forward to a "park" park and a true park have been manifest in the planning process.	19A. Comment noted.
Α	The DEIS fails to add	ress the issues.	
	was a cow pasture. I with brass labels notin	ydenbauer Bay neighborhood for the better part of a number of decades. I remember when QFC recall Bellevue Square as a lovely outdoor park-like assembly of structures with rhododendrons ng their sub-species. I remember the old A&P and Reuben sandwiches at the Crabapple is changed since that era and a great deal of that change has lacked sufficient planning and taste. I greed.	
	habitat (where in the vegles, great blue he Washington?). Turnin elements that should consumption. It isn't organization whose p	of the fact, that in the face of enormous change, Meydenbauer Bay has retained its rich wildlife world, within four blocks of 40 storey buildings, do you find populations of eagles, ospreys, golden grons, otters, beavers, muskrats, and a salmon spawning stream - one of only four in Lake githis small, fragile neighborhood into Sausalito will greatly diminish what is precious and the be valued and protected by our City. We live in an overdeveloped world obsessed with working. Having served on the board of directors of World Wildlife Fund for more than a decade, an anda logo can be found in well over 100 countries, I know a rare situation when I see one. Don't aren't the headlines the City of Bellevue wants.	
В	our neighborhood was went to Crossroads, S most impacted by the participate by speakir and the Committee m board of the Meydenb	najority of Steering Committee meetings, and related events, since the beginning. I should note that is left out of the mailings notifying citizens of the start of the park planning process. The notifications comerset and other areas not in the downtown section — not to west or south Bellevue, those areas park. After learning of the Steering Committee meetings, I started to attend and ig during the brief public comment section and by sending emails to Mike Bergstrom, Robin Cole, rembers. The answers I received, although prompt, were indirect and vague. I have served on the pauer Bay Neighbors Association since its inception. The organization was formed because the City is taxpayers. A year ago it became clear the City and EDAW did not want to perform an EIS. What?	19B. The City chose to wait until after the initial alternatives were determined to decide on the appropriate form, content, and process for meeting our environmental review responsibilities under SEPA. The City concluded that a full EIS was the appropriate method by which to evaluate the impacts of the alternatives, centralize environmental information, and disseminate that information for public review and comment.

#### Letter #19

Meydenbauer Bay has one of four salmon spawning streams in Lake Washington and the City does not want to know what sort of impact will occur when the boats start arriving to partake of the transient moorage? SALMON? Salmon is a call to arms in the environmental world, a common fact that the City neglects to recognize, amongst other common facts. What about the impact to other wildlife species, not to mention the impact to residents in a multitude of forms? Fortunately the taxpayers' voice was loud enough to inspire the necessity of an EIS. The result is an inadequate draft that makes light of the critical issues. This is unconscionable and irresponsible.

C

The planning process has violated public trust. I am not a lawyer, but it would seem the process has violated proper procedures. The Steering Committee Charge is clear. The Planning Principles are clear. How can the Steering Committee vote on a recommendation to present to the City Council when they have not seen the public comment on the DEIS? I don't blame them for wanting to wash their hands of the whole thing. Process has not been conducted properly and lacks in transparency. The whole thing has been slap/dash - - "lets create Sausalito out of 1000 feet of waterfront and to heck with the taxpayers."

D

For over two years the comments and concerns of the taxpayers/voters have been ignored. Telephone polls were conducted that were worded in a manner that those surveyed had to respond "yes" or "no" to questions a "yes" or "no" was not adequate. In other words, the poll was rigged. The results of written surveys have been ignored, although some surveys appear gratuitously in the DEIS. Where is the acknowledgment of the enormous public sentiment (passion is a better description) that has been voiced for over two years?

It feels as if many of the Steering Committee members have been influenced by the goals of city officials. A number of the committee members are developers. Some members do not live in Bellevue. Only one lives in, and would be impacted by, the new park. Several committee members have other affiliations with the City by serving on the Planning Commission, Park Department, and Transportation Department - - and those are just the affiliations I am aware of. It appears that the City stacked the deck in its choice of many of the Steering Committee members. In defense of the Steering Committee, they have worked long and hard. There has been sincerity --so why the blinders? I cannot imagine the Steering Committee, entering this process, had any idea of the level of controversy that was to come. Fondness for the Bay, intelligent traffic flow & planning, and common sense (ie you can't parachute Sausalito into a tiny, fragile cove in a long-established residential neighborhood with limited traffic options) has insighted public outcry. This is only the beginning, Mr. Paine, if a generous douse of reality isn't inserted into the outcome of this project.

Ε

This is my first venture into city politics. It is my first experience with an EIS. The process and lack the lack of respect shown to taxpayers/voters, property owners, the environment, and the jewel that is Meydenbauer Bay is shocking. When did Bellevue become Myanmar? The process, thus far, has served those with Kirkland envy, those who have waterfront envy, and those who want to make money on this tiny, fragile cove.

Are city officials hoping this project will boost their resume? This community is not being served by those who pay their salaries

My specific comments pertaining to the issues included in the DEIS ( the closure of SE 100th, the hideous "mini Alaska Way Viaduct" structure, the importance of the marina, the negligent thought of transient moorage, damage to my lifestyle & property value, commercial entities, litter, crime, the traffic fiasco, enormous cost of this project, etc) may be found in the enclosed document from my Homeowners Association.

My comments are firm and may seem overly negative due to frustration. They are sincere and I am not alone. have played ball. But the City has not been interested in the views of its taxpayers/voters, which is an outrageously sad reflection on city government.

Again, I welcome the park. A park as described by Webster and that preserves this last bit of charm in the City of Bellevue. Let's get an EIS with some depth that addresses the many issues in a realistic manner.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela Ebsworth 10000 Meydenbauer Way SE #3 Bellevue 98004

### City's Response to Comment

**19C.** The Steering Committee did not arrive at a final recommendation until after the end of the public comment period on the Draft EIS. All Draft EIS comments were forwarded to the Steering Committee for their review. Steering Committee members attended the public hearing on the Draft EIS so that they could hear oral comments first hand.

**19D.** The Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan did not involve a telephone survey; you may be thinking of the telephone survey that was conducted for the Shoreline Master Program Update project. Except for previously collected parking and traffic information, the Draft EIS does not rely on "survey" information. Early in the planning process (through December 2007), an informal online poll was conducted. Because this was not a scientific survey and was conducted well in advance of the SEPA process, the results were not included in the Draft EIS. However, these results were forwarded to the Steering Committee along with all other public comments received so that they could be fully informed of public comments as the plan evolved and leading into scoping for the Draft EIS.

**19E.** Comment noted.

Comme	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment		
Letter #	20, Barker			
	To: Mr. Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager City of Bellevue, Developmental Services Department P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue WA 98009 – 9012			
÷	From: Ms. Mildred E. Barker, Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Way S.E., # 4, Bellevue, WA 98004			
(B) (C)	<ul> <li>cc: CITY COUNCIL - Mayor Grant Degginger, C. Balducci, J. Chelminiak, Dr. D. Davidson, C. Lee, P. Bonincontri</li> <li>cc: CITY STAFF - S. Sarkozy, M. Terry, P. Foran, M. Brennan, M. Basick</li> <li>cc: MEYDENBAUER BAY PROJECT - M. Bergstrom, R. Cole, B. Scott, D. Leigh, I. Tocher</li> <li>cc: PUBLIC COMMISSIONS - M. Keeney, T. Smith, N. Harvey, V. Orrico, L. Northey, D. Cieri</li> </ul>			
. e	Subject: <u>Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Meydenbauer Bay Park &amp; Land Use Plan</u>			
100	Dear Mr. Paine:			
9	Although this letter is a personal submission, it is in full agreement with the letter submitted by the Homeowners Association of Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Condominium.			
A	For over two years, fellow homeowners, local residents and business owners have worked diligently and in good faith, with the City of Bellevue on its "Development Project" for Meydenbauer Bay. What brought so many good people around Meydenbauer Bay together so unanimously and in such bleak economical times? A City Project, one that would directly affect each local resident's life and property. In addition, one that would potentially isolate Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Condominium, thus, putting us, our property and very hard earned investments at risk.	20A. Comment noted.		
2	Taxpayers have literally worked hundreds of hours (in good faith) with the Steering Committee, various City Commission Representatives and have sent/received communiqués to City Council Members. As good citizens, all of us sought to find a reasonable compromise that would minimize the negative impact on Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Condominium, the surrounding neighborhood, the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club (that hosts community events such as the Youth Sailing Program), and above all, protect the abundant Wildlife that currently calls this small Bay home. When tempers flared, those of us who have watched this City grow over the years, held out hope that "The City Council" would ultimately do its job and protect the residents' safety and property rights. Especially when the Cities' agenda could be accomplished through compromise. However, after reading the Draft Environmental Impact Statement that trust and hope has been lost.			
В	The Closure of S.E. 100 <sup>th</sup> Emergency Fire, Ambulance and Police vehicles must have unobstructed access to the entrance of this building. Handicap and elderly citizens use our front door entrance as does the mail, utilities and guests. Also, "one to three designated parking spaces" will not suffice. Currently, parking is routinely taken up by construction workers from Main Street. They repeatedly block our fire hydrant (without citation), in fact my daughter had to request "The City" put up basic safety signs on the surrounding streets (approx) two years ago and we are in the middle of Bellevue! We need access to our own property and basic traffic patrol.	20B. See Comment Letter 18, Response 18C.		

#### Letter #20

Mr. Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager Page Two

C

<u>Crime/Noise</u> Over the past several years, condo's and homes in our immediate area have seen a rise in break-ins, vandalism, drug/alcohol issues on the streets, aggressive young drivers, groups shouting profanity, and litter that contains *items* not fit to be touched! A lot of this behavior has taken place on our immediate street (Meydenbauer Way S.E. / S.E. 100<sup>th</sup>). As bad as it is now, increased population, an elevated footbridge (*with a view into our homes*), elevators, cance rentals, washrooms, food concessions, garbage, Transient moorage, etc., will increase this problem tenfold and put us all into further jeopardy.

Environment

The City of Bellevue has accepted awards for being environmentally friendly, but are younot so much. If The City follows through on placing the elevated footbridge (with a view into our homes),
elevators, cance rentals, washrooms, food concessions, garbage receptacles, etc., on the property next
to SE 100<sup>th</sup> – two old growth trees will need to be removed, in addition to drastically disturbing land
currently used by an abundance of wildlife.

D

As residents are aware, Eagles love this small pristine bay, they nest in the very two trees that you would need to cut down. The very wildlife you say you "care about" live and nest in the area that you want to dig up for the elevated footbridge and commercial ventures. A compromise would be the low impact "zig zag" park setting and to leave the two old growth trees. In addition, move the other commercial enterprises west (by the whaling station) where it makes sense for public activity to be.

E

Property Rights/Expectations From Our Leaders You are very bright men and women; you are fully aware what the proposed elevated footbridge (with a view into our homes) and elevators would do to our property values. Most of us in this building and around the Bay are "not in the big leagues" (i.e. not the Bill Gates of this world). We are Taxpayers who have worked very hard all of our lives and saved to have our homes in this area. Most of us have been around a long time and have been instrumental in working hard to make our community what it is today (growth of the Hospital, many charities, various small to medium size businesses, etc.). In turn, we deserve the respect and protection from our elected Leaders in The City of Bellevue.

F

Mr. Paine (and other City Leaders) your time in reading this letter is very much appreciated. I do ask that you seriously consider the compromise of keeping the street open and elect to go with the "zig zag" park setting, leaving the two trees. Let our neighborhood and Meydenbauer Bay retain the beauty and calm that it has for so many years. Don't let us down and make Bellevue, WA. just another City that puts commercialism over its own residents and the environment.

Looking forward to your response in each area.

Respectfully.

Mildred Barker

Mildred E. Barker Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Way S.E., # 4 Bellevue, WA 98004

Contact Email: CRMadison@msn.com

### **City's Response to Comment**

**20C.** It is acknowledged that park development will result in more visitor activity at the park and through the adjacent areas. The extent to which this would increase criminal or other undesirable activity is not clear. While this may place additional demands on the Bellevue Police Department, it also will provide the additional safety typical of a more vibrant and active public space. Nonetheless, in response to increased use, the Police Department has identified necessary measures to police the park effectively with 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue closed. Significant impacts upon Police Department services are not anticipated.

**20D.** Comment noted. It is acknowledged that park development will result in the loss of existing vegetation, including large trees, and will disrupt the wildlife that use that vegetation. These impacts are described in Section 3.3 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS. There is no documentation of eagles nesting within the study area.

**20E.** Comment noted.

20F. Comment noted.

Cor	mment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Let	ter #21, Georgette	
	Letter #21	
	Bergstrom, Michael	
	From: Madelaine Georgette [studiogeorgette@mac.com]  Sent: Saturday, July 04, 2009 9:29 AM  To: Bonincontri, Patsy; Rich Wagner; Kevin Paulich; Stu VanderHoek; Doug Leigh; Hal F Degginger, Grant; Stephanie Bieghle; Merle Keeney; Marcelle Lynde; Iris Tocher; Co Betina Finley; Paine, Michael; Bergstrom, Michael; Bob MacMillan  Subject: Comments on Meydenbauer Waterfront Park	
	Dear Robin and Mike:	<b>21B.</b> The committee received and considered comments from residents city
A	I noted with extreme surprise and displeasure the fact that the Meydenbauer Waterfront Steering Committee voted for and recommended the closure of 100th Ave NE as well as the most extensive build least natural design for access to the park. This decision is very worrisome in light of the following:	wide, and relied upon the Council-adopted planning principles for guidance.  The Draft EIS concludes that the road closure would result in no significant adverse impacts. The effects of the Preferred Alternative are addressed in
В	1.The Committee has heard hours of oral testimony and comments and received numerous written committee the communities surrounding the proposed park with respect to the adverse impacts of the closure street which is a major circulation route.	
C	<ol> <li>The Committee has likewise received considerable input as to the publics preference for a park with the development and which consists of the maximum coverage of natural areas, which necessitate the minimal abuilt environment.</li> </ol>	
D	3. The Committee's responsibility is to the citizens of Bellevue and not to themselves and there personal preferences which most likely will not have any daily impact on their lives since they do not live in the immediate vicinity of the park and will not have endure its lasting adverse impacts if these two measure finally implemented.	
	4. The Steering Committee's mission statement says:	
E	"In conducting its work, the steering committee should combine their talents to represent the broad interests of the community at large, recognizing that the park will be a community-wide asset.	<b>21E.</b> Comment noted.
	All aspocts of any Issue should be fully considered before drawing conclusions and recommendations. The steering committee should also participate in broader public outreach efforts on the project, ensuring that the whole community is engaged in the process and the relevant interests are considered and appropriately addressed.  Approved by the City Council March 19, 2007	<b>21F.</b> The Steering Committee schedule included three meetings to develop a Preferred Alternative. The June 30, 2009, meeting took place after the Draft EIS public hearing which was attended by all committee members. The July 28
F	The Committee has not yet reviewed the public's comments on the DEIS prior to voting and making recommendation     The Committee is clearly not following it's stated charge and actually is in violation of such by voting prior to the enpublic comment period on the DEIS.	and 30, 2009, meetings took place after the close of the comment period. All
G	7. The Committee is not addressing the publics relevant interests nor appropriately addressing them.	to the July meetings and prior to the committee finalizing a Preferred
	I would like to take this opportunity to provide some context to my comments:  During the years 1984-1988 I worked as an environmental consultant and designed and facilitated numerous public in programs for King County and suburban cities within the county. In 1987-1989 I worked with King County Solid Wa Department who were attempting to locate a garbage incineration plant in the county. After a long environmental revi	nste ew
H	process the original 33 sites were reduced to six sites and I conducted public involvement hearings as part of the EIS so process in each of the potentially affected communities. I then compiled the results of all the public oral and written commentary into a 123 page list of issues that the public wanted examined in the EIS. I met with the County and told reflect on this and to consider a pilot program in recycling prior to moving forward on the EIS. The public input was overwhelmingly against the project and many suggested recycling. After long and hard consideration, the County deciver to the voices of it's residents which it took seriously and which it respected and began a pilot recycling program.	them to  ided to  21H. Comment noted.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #21  public response was tremendous and King County is now proud of it's program considered a model of success around the country. No garbage incinerator was built.	
The lessons to be learned from this are:  * A public involvement program is just that - it involves the public in the process and respects their role and their input in the decision-making process.  * The department and the County recognized they represented the people.  * The majority were against the proposed project.  * Democratic decision-making which took in to account the social and political feasibility of the project prevailed.	
The City of Bellevue, the Parks Department and the Meydenbauer Waterfront Steering Committee are beholden to the public; you represent us; we elect you. The public has spoken; let their voices be heard, respected and seriously taken into account in the final decision making process. Otherwise your entire public involvement program will be perceived as 'simply going through the motions' with no intention of taking the public's opinions into account. Surely all these meetings over the past two years have not simply been theatre - let the final decisions be ones the entire City of Bellevue, both representatives and staff and the public can be proud to say, "The City of Bellevue created a meaningful process that resulted in a carefully considered democratic decision that took into account the voices of the people".	21I. Comment noted.
Let the final design and implementation reflect the voices of the residents of Bellevue and not be a top-down decision imposed on us.	
Please be kind enough to pass a copy of this letter on to each and every Steering Committee member.	
Sincerely,	

	nent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter	#22, Boyd	
	July 17, 2009  Letter #22  Mr. Michael Paine, Lead Agency Contact Meydenbauer Marina Park City of Bellevue 450 110th Avenue NE P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98000-9012	
A	Dear Mr. Paine:  My response to the proposed Meydenbauer Marina Park DEIS is based on the close proximity of our home at Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Condominiums. Clearly, we are the most severely impacted residence in Alternatives I and II. Almost all of the concepts as outlined in the DEIS in the 100th Avenue SE/Bellevue Place corridor are unacceptable.	<ul><li>22A. Comment noted.</li><li>22B. Refer to Comment Letter 5, Response 5A.</li></ul>
В	Undoubtedly, there will be strong pressure on the Bellevue City Council to accept the concept of a "Grand Entry" to the Park where Main Street, 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and Lake Washington Boulevard conjoin. The "Grand Entry" is predicated upon the closure of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE/Bellevue Place. The proposed closure of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE/Bellevue Place will eliminate access to Ten Thousand Meydenbauer's main entry as well as the drive-through entrance to The Meydenbauer Apartments. While the planners are thrilled with the connection a "Grand Entry" will provide to the Downtown Park and the vistas of the Bay, they fail to mention any solutions to mitigate the closure of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE/Bellevue Place. At the same time they minimize the traffic impact the closure will bring.	<b>22C.</b> Traffic impacts related to the closure of 100th Avenue SE are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS. The impacts of leaving 100th Avenue SE open to one-way traffic northbound would fall between the No-Action Alternative and the closure of 100th Avenue SE. As described in Section 3.9.2 of the Draft EIS, 2020 traffic volumes and LOS show higher traffic volumes, greater delays, and failure of one intersection, under the No-Action
C	It is incumbent upon the City to consider any and all solutions to the possible closure during the Environmental Impact Study time frame. One suggestion is to create a one-way lane up 100th SE/Bellevue Place to the Bay Vue East property, now owned by the City; then continue the lane across the southern boundary of the above property and (with an easement from The Meydenbauer Apartments and the city's purchase of a small piece of land south of the Astoria condominiums from a willing seller) connect with 101st SE.	Alternative, compared to existing conditions. Whether or not the project is implemented, traffic problems will occur without City action. Several projects are underway and/or planned by the City to address growing traffic volumes. These projects are described in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS on pages 3-180 and
D	Two years ago Robin Cole, Parks Department, and Mike Bergstrom, Planning & Community Development, assured us that if 100 <sup>th</sup> SE/Bellevue Place was closed, the City would provide us with a driveway to our front door with a turn around capacity. The DEIS (in the "road closed" alternative) only mentions a pedestrian path, a totally unacceptable alternative. It is apparent that the consultants and designers are unfamiliar with the access to Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. While the homeowners access the garage from Meydenbauer Way, the only public access to the building (eg. Emergency vehicles, maintenance personnel, delivery trucks, the postman, family & friends) is the main entry on 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE.	<ul> <li>3-192.</li> <li>22D. Refer to Comment Letter 5, Response 5A.</li> <li>22E. Your preferences regarding commercial uses and the community building are acknowledged. The EIS evaluates a range of options for types and extent of</li> </ul>
E	Other features of Alternative II that are not compatible with maintaining the residential "feel" to our neighborhood is the proposed Community Building & Café. In fact, we are opposed to any commercial zoning west of 100th Avenue SE. The City need not compete with the existing eateries on Main Street. Meydenbauer Bay is not Kirkland where their waterfront is bordered by commercial enterprises.	commercial activity within the park, including vendor kiosks, small watercraft (e.g., canoes and kayaks) rental, boat moorage at the marina, and a café.  Alternative 1 and the Preferred Alternative do not include a café.
F	We like the concept of a grassy slope with a switchback trail winding down towards the water.	<b>22F.</b> Comment noted. The Vue Condominiums do not front on 99th Avenue NE, and therefore rerouting their access to 99th Avenue is impractical.

#### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #22 However, this slope is interrupted by the driveway entrance into the Vue Condominiums from Meydenbauer Way. If their access was diverted to 99th Avenue SE, there could be a seamless transition of the grassy slope to the waters edge. We also endorse the designers ornamental plantings, but with the caveat that they be low growing, initially and into the future, so as not to obscure views of the Bay. 22G. The EIS evaluates different options for the location of a PPV launch and The kayak/canoe rental concession is misplaced. It should be located on the west end of the its relationship to the swim beach and parking, including the location you Meydenbauer Beach Park, near the beach. If the City keeps the existing parking lot at the Beach Park, the rental boats can be easily accessed by users arriving by car. Kayaking and canoeing are suggest. quiet activities that should be as far removed from power boats as possible not only for aesthetics but also for safety. **22H.** Parking will be required based on the uses ultimately approved for the Without a Community Center & Café or a kayak/canoe concession, there is no need for an park during project-level design. Dispersing parking throughout the park will underground parking lot in the 100th Avenue SE/Bellevue Place corridor. provide convenience for users and reduce potential for concentrating Probably the most offensive concept by far in Alternative II is the "flying bridge/elevator." It is congestion. totally out of scale for the most narrow part of the Bay. While the designers glamorize the concept of an elevated platform as well as an"over-the-water" experience, the two can be combined into one structure and located on the west side of the Whaling Buildings to maximize the Bay view to its **221.** The design details of the elevated pier have not yet been developed. The fullest extent. This farther west location could be accessed from the proposed promenade, thus meeting the requirements of the ADA. It is absolutely not necessary to build a flying bridge in the graphics contained in the Draft EIS are conceptual. The Steering Committee Alternative II location. The designers have not only chosen the wrong place for their concept but expressed its interest in keeping the design as light and transparent as possible they have shown blatant disregard for the residential component, particularly Ten Thousand Meydenbauer, by creating a view-blocking monstrosity. An example of a popular and well designed and appropriate in scale to surrounding structures. According to their web elevated, over-the-water walkway in Portland is published in the July-August Sunset Magazine page, Portland's over-water walkway referenced in and submitted with this issue (see enclosure), comment letter is installed 30 feet above the river, similar to the elevated pier Lastly, transient moorage must be kept to the minimum requirement. This limit is essential to proposed in Alternative 2 and the Preferred Alternative. maintaining some semblance of serenity in the Bay. Often, transient boaters will interfere with kayakers and canoeists and in the case of Meydenbauer Bay, the youth sailing program. Generally, these transient boaters are noisy, sometimes rowdy and have little regard for the neighborhood. **22J.** Transient moorage is currently proposed at 14 slips; however, we are not It is possible to create a regional park that can complement the existing parks nearby, without being aware of studies supporting claims that transient boaters differ in behavior offensive to the neighborhood and that can meet the needs of recreationists as well as more passive pursuits. Send the designers back to the drawing board. from boaters at long-term moorage. 22K. Comment noted. Sandra Boyd Ten Thousand Meydenbauer Way SE #1 Bellevue, WA 98004 425-450-0671

omme	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
etter#	23, Hodge	
5	Letter #23	
	To: MICHAEL PAINE, Environmental Planning Manager	
	City of Bellevue, Development Services Dept	
	PO Box 90012	
	Bellevue WA 98009-9012	
	CC: Mayor Grant Degginger, The Bellevue City Council, Steve	
	Sarkozy, City Manager, Patrick Foran, Parks Dept, Mike Bergstrom	
	and Robin Cole, the Steering Committee for new Waterfront Park, and Paul Inghram, Transportation Division	
	and radi fightain, Transportation Division	
	RE: Meydenbauer Bay Park DEIS	
	(Draft Environmental Impact Statement) response	
	Dear Sirs and Madams,	
	A Committee of the Comm	
	"If we build it (with gridlock) will they come"?	
	You must ask yourselves this question as you ponder the selection	
	of the Park Design sent to you by the Steering Committee of the Park Department for the new Meydenbauer Bay Beach Park.	
	Department for the new incydenbauer day beach Fark.	<b>23A.</b> Comment noted.
	In establishing a wonderful waterfront park the Bellevue	
Α	City Council should not feel empowered to wreck havoc upon a serene Meydenbauer neighborhood by adding to the	
10 W	gridlock traffic situation that already exists.	
	(closing 100th Ave. SE would do that)	
	Instead, the City Council should mitigate the current	
	gridlock situation on Main Street and 101st Ave. SE	
	before the park is built!	
	After reading the EIS on the new Meydenbauer Bay Beach Park I	
	question the Transportation Department's facts and figures regarding	
	the traffic in the specific area serving the Park. I have lived for 8+	<b>23B.</b> The transportation analysis is based on a 2020 model and includes
	years in THE ASTORIA at the corner of Main Street and 101st SE, the two heaviest used streets in the vicinity of the park. I have seen,	projected traffic from all known proposed developments, including City plans
1	witnessed and been a victim of gridlock due to the growing traffic in	private development permits, projects under construction, and anticipated
<b>6</b>	this area. This traffic is soon to be increased by the <u>ONE ON MAIN</u>	traffic and parking generated by both the land use and park elements of the
В		project.

Letter #23

В

<u>CONDO</u> nearing completion, with 130 parking spaces and the development of the corner of Main Street and Bellevue Way with an additional 521 parking spaces. Before the Park is built there will be more condos built on the north side of Main Street, on properties owned by the Vanderhook families.

Adding to this already crowded picture is the agreed decision by the Steering Committee to recommend CLOSING 100<sup>TH</sup> SE, adding that land to the new park. This street is the only escape route many of us living south of Main Street have to travel north or west, when Main Street is gridlocked BOTH WAYS.....which happens to me 3 out of 5 trips out of my garage at any time of the day. I once counted 25 cars passing me before I was able to make a RIGHT turn on to Main St. (and that was at 7:45 AM).

And....you guessed it....the new park will bring more and more traffic, more crowded streets with fewer streets on which to travel, adding to the gridlock with many more pedestrians.

It troubled me that the traffic tabulations in the DEIS (Pages 3-173 through pages 3-227) were "2008" figures, but it never mentioned on what survey those figures were based! I know there has not been a street counter on Main Street or 100<sup>th</sup> SE in the past two years (even though the closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE has been controversial and questioned since the beginning of planning). Only one counter was on 101<sup>st</sup> SE midweek this year, and one on Lake Washington BLVD done in April 2007 (the week Bellevue Schools were on Spring Break. Bellevue High traffic can be up to 20% of the traffic between 7 AM and 4 PM). All the City of Bellevue's counts were at 5 to 6 PM according to their information.

The figures provided to the DEIS were low compared to the visual counts I personally did for one entire week from 5 to 6 PM on 100 Ave. SE. My figures were higher than the EIS report each day of the week, starting with 15% higher on Monday graduating each day of the week to 37% higher on Friday. The City of Bellevue Transportation Department has underestimated the current vehicular traffic count, the basis for which they have predicted future vehicular traffic!

### **City's Response to Comment**

23C. 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE is classified as a local street by the City of Bellevue, per the City's Functional Classification. The primary function of a local street is to provide access to adjacent properties of the street. A local street generally should not be used for through traffic purposes. The Draft EIS acknowledges the impacts to the intersection of Main Street at 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE when 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE is closed. The LOS is expected to degrade from a LOS C under the No-Action Alternative, to a LOS E under Alternatives 1 and 2. Under Alternative 2, The total number of additional vehicles that are projected to use 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE as a result of the closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE is 130 vehicles during the p.m. peak hour (northbound and southbound). In the northbound direction, there would be an additional 72 vehicles. As described in Section 3.9 of the Final EIS, transportation impacts under the Preferred Alternative would be similar to Alternative 1 and slightly less than Alternative 2

**23D.** The traffic counts for existing conditions were based on traffic counts provided by the City. The City has a comprehensive ongoing traffic count program citywide. The same traffic count locations are used continually to verify changes to counts over a period of time. The traffic counts used for the Draft EIS were conducted between 2007 and 2009. Traffic counts for Main Street at 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE were conducted on June 5, 2008. Traffic counts for Main Street at 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE were conducted on September 12, 2007. Traffic counts for Main Street at Bellevue Way were conducted on January 14, 2008. Traffic counts for Lake Washington Boulevard at 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue were conducted on March 16, 2009. The same traffic counts are used in the Final EIS.

23E. See Comment Letter 23, Response 23D.

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### **Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)**

### Letter #23

When I also personally tabulated the traffic on 101st SE, the traffic count was likewise higher each day compared to Bellevue's count...to a whopping 43% higher on Friday. Using inaccurately low figures in the EIS is simply WRONG! We have gridlock already. Add to that high figure on 101st SE would be another 85+ vehicles from the closure of 100th, the added cars from all the new developments AND the added traffic to and from the new park....! The rating of "C" would drop to the lowest "F" (unacceptable to most drivers) ranking.

And no where in the Transportation section of the EIS does it address **pedestrian traffic**—how it impedes right and left hand turns now and with more density in this area, how increased pedestrian traffic will further impede vehicular traffic on Main Street and Lake Washington Blvd. The safety of pedestrians, or how many and where new pedestrian walkways servicing park visitors and the new residential developments along Main Street has not been considered.

And no where in the DEIS report is there mention of the increased traffic **due to begin in 2010 (NEXT YEAR!)** when SR 520 begins tolling its users, and Medina, Clyde Hill and close-in Bellevue residents <u>select I-90 to commute and travel to Seattle---using Main Street!</u>

Implied throughout the EIS is the future development with bonus incentives of the Chevron and Brandt sites....creating more density, and significant increases in vehicles and pedestrians. And yet, no information was provided to justify the need to increase density which would result again in more increased traffic (up to a 500 car garage with the only entrance on Main Street.. Community wide assets such as this new park should be shared by the community without impacting one specific neighborhood as it does the Meydenbauer neighborhood.

The #10 Planning Principal of the Steering Committee states: "Neighborhood enhancement and protection: The land use component should be a catalyst for revitalization of older uses while minimizing impacts on neighboring residential areas. Redevelopment of properties in the study area or conversion of apartment buildings to condos is expected in the foreseeable future. The land use plan

### **City's Response to Comment**

23F. See Comment Letter 23, Response 23D.

**23G.** The Synchro model (for both existing and future conditions) includes pedestrian signal phasing for all signalized intersections. Crosswalks across Main Street, the area with the greatest amount of congestion, are located at 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE, 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE, midblock between 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE and 103<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, 103<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, and Bellevue Way. With the exception of the midblock crossing, all other crosswalks are at intersections that were analyzed as part of the traffic analysis. The Draft EIS does address the improvements to pedestrian facilities within the study area that are expected to be implemented under the No Action Alternative and both action alternatives in Section 3.9.2.2, under the Non-Motorized Transportation element. These include improvements to be constructed through the City's existing programs and plans (i.e., Bellevue Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan), improvements to pedestrian facilities anticipated as a result of the redevelopment of the upland parcels, and pedestrian facilities constructed as part of the park project. Furthermore, the Collisions and Safety element addresses the improvement to overall pedestrian safety as a result of the new pedestrian facilities. These same improvements are expected to be implemented under the Preferred Alternative (Section 3.9 of the Final EIS).

23H. See Comment Letter 9, Response 9B, above.

**231.** No density bonuses or increases are proposed for the Brant Photography and Chevron site under any of the three action alternatives, although the Chevron site will be included within the overly district. A package of development incentives including increased density is proposed for other sites in the study area, and is intended to encourage coordinated redevelopment to create physical and visual corridors and public spaces between structures to provide connections between Downtown Park, Old Bellevue, Wildwood Park, and Meydenbauer Bay. Density increases on those sites were based on economic modeling that identified the minimum incentive needed to encourage redevelopment.

23J. Comment noted.

Commont	(Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Comment		City's Response to Comment
J, cont	should ensure through rules or incentives that these actions occur in a manner that is both consistent with the area's land use vision and sensitive to adjacent residential uses". Closing a vital street and adding more traffic without new ways of traveling or improving roads is not minimizing the impact on our residential area. It is doing just the opposite.	
K	I urge you to decide to <u>keep 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE open</u> and direct the Transportation Department to rework their numbers in the street surveys and immediately <u>provide better access to Main Street for all the residents</u> who live south of Main Street, <u>find improvements</u> for present and future vehicular traffic in this impacted area whether or not this park is ever built!	23K. Comment noted.
1	And so I ask you again"	
	If you build it (with gridlock) will they come?".  One last thought: I am in favor of a new waterfront park, with consideration for the neighborhood concerns of traffic, noise, transient boat activity and other issues we neighbors have regarding park development. I am a frequent walker in the Downtown Park, often chatting with other walkers. I contributed money to complete the park more than 20 years ago, but the current <b>Downtown Park</b> is nearly 19 years old and not yet finished! The sign "Future Park Expansion" has been up for more than 10 years now, and even on the latest bond renewal the expansion of the Downtown Park was	23L. Comment noted.
	only #4 or #5 on the Park Department's list of "future park improvements". Bellevue citizenry are very aware of the Park Department's past history in park development and completion.  Let's make sure this park is done right, planned right, traffic mitigated before construction, and funded correctly from the start!	
	Respectfully  Kathleen Hodge  kthodge1@comcast.net 10047 Main Street #510  Bellevue, WA 98004	

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #24, Rogoway	
Mr. Michael Paine Environmental Planning Manager City of Bellevue, Development Services Dept. PO Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-9012  Dear Mr. Paine:  Ludicrous describes plans to close 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE. The gridlock which exists today on Main Street between 100 <sup>th</sup> and 101 <sup>st</sup> will be exacerbated. The problem will be further compounded when the One On Main condo opens.  The closing of 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave. SE may address the interests of some to the determent of many. Traffic on Main Street will come to a halt impacting the livability of "Old Main" and damaging access to local business.  C  All of us support a waterfront park, but closing 100 <sup>th</sup> creates more problems than it is intended to solve. The gridlock will not only affect the local residents it will discourage people from visiting the park. To help mitigate  the traffic mess you may want to consider a stop light on Main and 101 <sup>st</sup> .  Finally, the Steering Committee interest in "minimizing impacts on neighboring residential areas" will be violated if 100 <sup>st</sup> Ave SE is closed. It's time to listen to the local residents rather than just focusing on the "grand plan."	24A. The analysis conducted indicates congestion on Main Street under existing conditions, and in the future under the No-Action Alternative. While the action alternatives result in additional traffic volumes on Main Street, above the volumes under No-Action, the vast majority of traffic volumes under the action alternatives are a result of the background growth, not attributed to the park development alternatives or upland parcel redevelopment. Under the No-Action Alternative, the total p.m. peak volume on Main Street between 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 101 <sup>st</sup> Avenue SE is 1,115 vehicles. Under Alternative 2, the total volume is 1,250 vehicles. This represents a 12 percent growth in traffic volumes at this location as a result of the park project, redevelopment of upland parcels, and closure of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. In examining the volumes on Main Street under Alternative 2, comparing 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE open or closed, the difference in volumes is relatively minor. As stated earlier, under Alternative 2 (with 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE closed), the total p.m. peak volume on Main Street between 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 101 <sup>st</sup> Avenue SE is 1,250 vehicles. Under Alternative 2a (with 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE open), the total p.m. peak volume on the same segment is 1,201 vehicles (a difference of 49 vehicles). This represents a 4 percent growth in traffic volumes at this location as a result of closing 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Under Alternative 2, any future development currently underway (including the One on Main condominium) is assumed as part of the future land use assumption in the 2020 BKR model.
David Rogoway 10047 Main St. #209 Bellevue, WA 98004	<ul> <li>24C. See Comment Letter 9, Response 9B, and Comment Letter 24, Response 24A. It is anticipated that many of the visitors to the park will either walk or bike to it, especially residents of downtown Bellevue and Meydenbauer Bay. The pedestrian promenade included in Alternatives 1 and 2 and the Preferred Alternative is designed to encourage more pedestrian activity, and improve pedestrian connections from Old Bellevue and Downtown Park to Meydenbauer Bay Park.</li> <li>24D. The Draft EIS identifies potential mitigation measures in Section 3.9.3.1, <i>Traffic Mitigation</i>. One of the potential improvements identified was the installation of a signal at Main Street at 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE.</li> </ul>

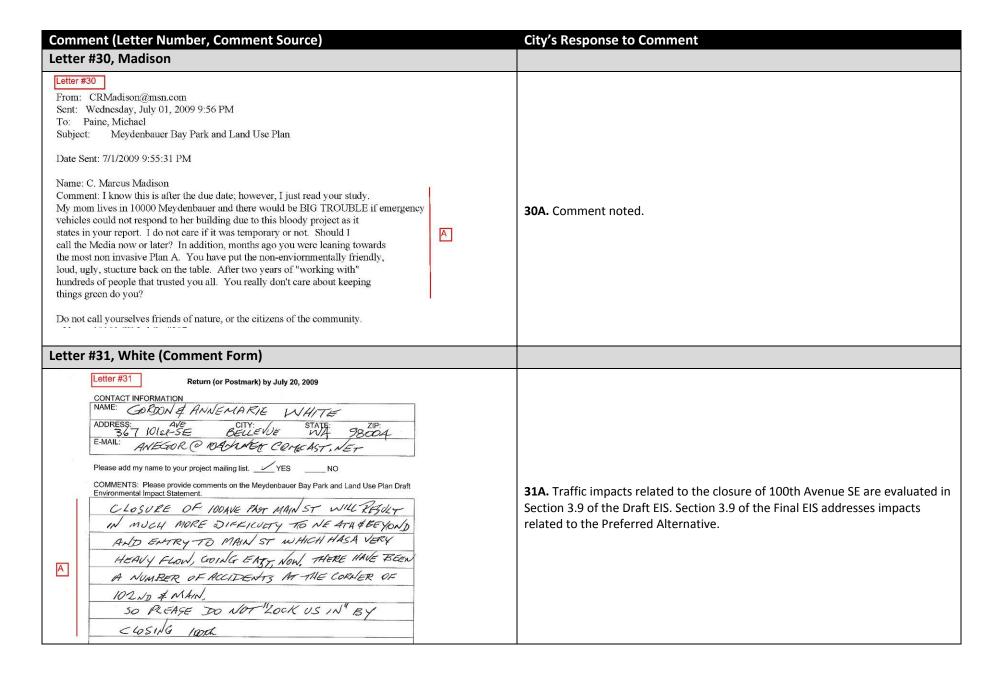
Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment  24D (Continued). Under Alternative 2 (with 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SE closed), the installation of a signal would improve the northbound delay to 33.9 seconds (as opposed to 43.8 seconds with a stop sign). The overall intersection level of service would improve from a LOS E to a LOS C. However, it was also noted that long delays and backup would occur in the westbound direction through 102 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue due to the absence of a westbound to southbound left-turn lane, which is made worse by a signal. The long delays experienced in the eastbound direction are due to the long vehicle queuing at Main Street and Bellevue Way and the delays due to signalization of the Main Street/101 <sup>st</sup> Avenue intersection. Therefore, the installation of a signal at Main Street / 101 <sup>st</sup> Avenue SE would not improve the delay without a left-turn pocket. Adding a 50-foot left-turn pocket would require the removal of existing on-street parking. Transportation impacts related to the Preferred Alternative are similar to Alternative 1 and slightly less than Alternative 2.  24E. Comment Noted. Transportation analysis shows that closing 100th Avenue SE to vehicle traffic will not create significant adverse impacts. Also see Section 3.9 of the Final EIS.

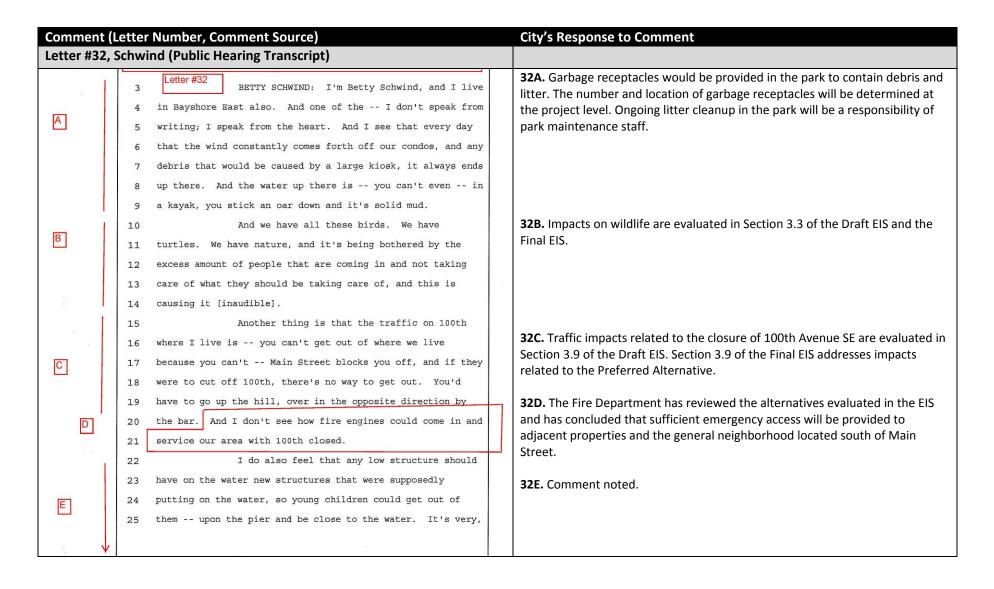
Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #25, Dahlman	
Letter #25	
From: dahlman1@comcast.net [mailto:dahlman1@comcast.net] Sent: Monday, July 20, 2009 3:30 PM To: Paine, Michael Subject: Meydenbauer Bay deis  The Americans With Disabilities Act of 1991 regulates access to public facilities, including parks. Federal courts have had difficulties interpreting the act due to an inadequete definition by congress. Many cases have been heard regarding public housing, access to voting locations, workplace situations and public transportation. Definitions of disabled, handicapped and frail elderly seem to be merging. The test is becoming the ability to perform the requirements of daily living.  A citizens committee has met regarding suggested changes to the act. One meeting involved a son who took his elderly father to an Atlantic Coast Park and subsequently the local government closed the road. He would leave his father for several hours to enjoy the water and then return to pick him to this brings the discussion to the deis on Meydenbauer Bay Park. There are frail elderly people who have been driven down to the park Under objective #1it says the park will greatly increase water access to ALL Bellevue residents. I would add"except the frail elderly" They have access now that we be cut off by Alternatives 1 or 2.  ( See following conclusion)	funding agencies (especially the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office), we are required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Such access will be required to the shoreline and to key elements of the park such as the marina and the swim beach, through the grand entry, along the shoreline, and at least one overwater structure will likely be required. Accessible parking will also be provided near key features.
Letter #26, Palevich	
Letter #26Original Message From: jepālevich@gmail.com [mailto:jepalevich@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2009 9:50 AM To: Paine, Michael Subject: Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan  Date Sent: 6/30/2009 9:50:05 AM  Name: John E Palevich Comment: Hurry back from La-La Land, get a grip on the current local/state/national/intern economic collapse, stop wasting our tax dollars on meetings, mailings, consultants, studie statements, etc. relating to a project that cannot be undertaken anytime in the foreseeable future, and expend what little money is left on cleaning up Bellevue's increasing shabbine address: 10047 Main Street, Unit 414 mailing list: Yes City, state, zip: Bellevue, WA 98004	<b>26A.</b> Comment noted.

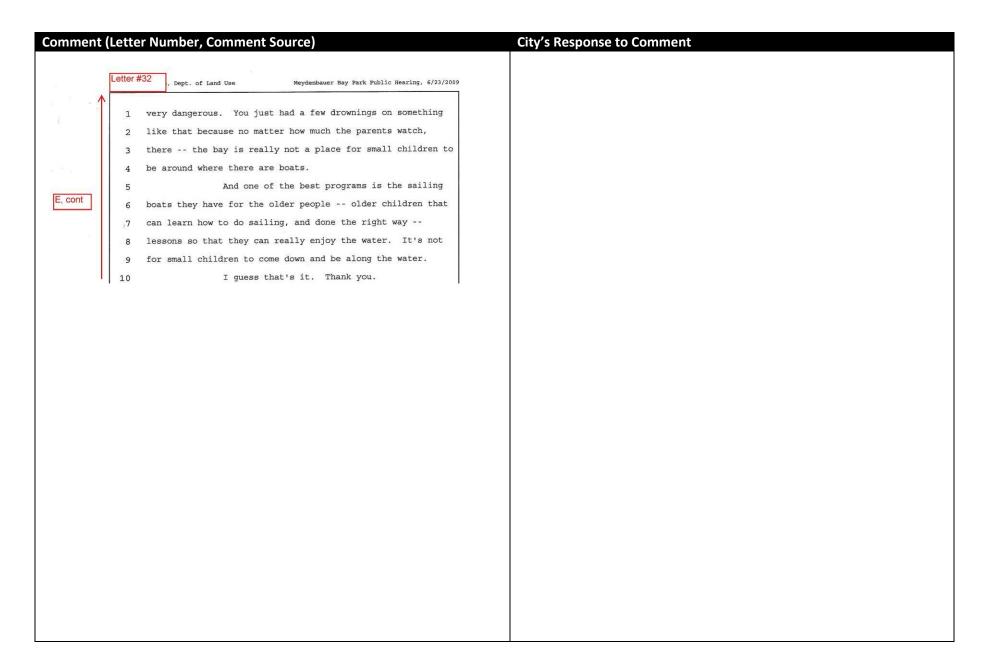
Comment (L	etter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #27, I	akha	
Letter #27 Bergstrom,	Michael	27A. Comment noted.
Bergstrom, From: Sent: To: Subject:  Dear Michael, My name is A Washington B Committee vote natural design f B The Meydenbau to have beautift of the nest but s The committee. Is if the city at the conatural habitant Another concern on a regular bax serenity and pehuge developm  E Also my children because its qua several large pe several large pe F I wanted to let y committee vant the committee r	Afshan Lakha [Afshan@lakhainvestments.com] Sunday, July 05, 2009 9:30 AM Palne, Michael; Bergstrom, Michael; Cole, Robin RE: Park development  Shan Lakha and I live directly adjacent to the Bellevue Beach park. My address is 9675 Lake vid NE bellevue WA 98004. I am very concerned that the Meydenbauer Waterfront Steenie of or and recommended the observe of 100th Ave NE. as well as the most exhancishe building and least or access to the park. We have enjoyed living next to the park for past 10 years and saw the rebuilding of or aby bridge. I am sure you are aware the environmental impact this bridge caused on the bay. We use losprey that always nested to the tree adjacent to the park. Year after year we saw baby ospreys fly out ince the development of the bridge that osprey never returned.  In an impact on the fragile environment of this bay I wonder what is the motivation of the steering to enhance the park to such extend that it would attract large development and to increase revenue for set toosing habitat for these birds? I wonder if you would be able to guarantee that this will not impact any sat exist with us in this bay?  I have is why does the steering committee think that this is what the public needs? I frequent the park is and have had a chance to speak with several people about how to use this park. They enjoy the coeffulness of this park. They feel that their children are safe in this environment and a large park with miss will preven them from using this park. They like to go with their friends to this particular park in, beautiful and safe. We as parents feel safe to send our children there and enjoy this. There are ks in this city and we do not need another big park and even more big development around it.  So to their own personal gain is another. I hope that you would listen to the people of this city and not just garding this mister.	<ul> <li>27B. Osprey are designated by WDFW as a Priority Species and their nesting locations mapped. An osprey nest was once located in an artificial nest box on a pole at Meydenbauer Marina near the end of 99th Avenue NE back in 1998. Under permit, the nest box was moved to a live fir tree in Meydenbauer Beach Park, where the osprey resided through 2004. Since spring 2005, the osprey pair has nested at Hidden Valley Sports Park, about 1.25 miles from the original nest location. Currently, there is no known osprey nesting activity in the vicinity.</li> <li>27C. An early Steering Committee concept was to increase the natural feel of the ravine and west end of the park, gradually increasing public activity and uses toward the east as the park transitions to an urban edge bounded by multi-family and commercial uses on Main Street. An overriding committee goal was to improve the ecology of the site, reflected in contiguous stretches of shoreline restoration and habitat improvement, daylighting of at least a portion of the creek, removal of non-native species in the ravine, wetland enhancement, reduction of impervious surface, introduction of stormwater treatment opportunities, and reduction in overwater coverage. Increasing development or revenue was not a Steering Committee goal.</li> <li>27D. The Steering Committee was provided with 12 planning principles by the City Council, which the committee used to guide its deliberations and to develop a recommended Preferred Alternative that is described and evaluated in the Final EIS.</li> <li>27E. Comment noted.</li> <li>27F. See Response 27D, above.</li> </ul>

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #28, Rowe	
Bergstrom, Michael  From: Donald Rowe [roweoffice@comcast.net] Sent: Friday, July 10, 2009 8:39 AM To: Bergstrom, Michael Subject: Meydenbauer Park Project  Good Morning Mike,  We live at 975 in R. E. 1st Street, Bellevue, Wa 98004 and are concerned about the cities plan for Meydenbauer Park. We realize that expanding the park is in the neighborhoods interest, but, wish that the park remain a peaceful, natural frue park without any commercial uses. We do not see any reason to remove or replace the existing park structures which provide a rich and family friendly almosphere. The simal beach, pichic tables and play areas are well utilized.  Because the Believue Merina is included in the park plan, we strongly urge you to maintain the marina as a working marina. The income that is generated by the mocrage helps pay for the purchase of the marina as well as in the future to help pay for the park maintenance. What a said loss, historically, if that were to be removed. (We think that the required transient mocrage should be put toward to outer hay area—NV of the existing piers. Also the speed limits in the bay should be made and the park park of the symmens, kayakers and youth salling in the area.  Thank you for your efforts regarding our citizen input.	28A. The EIS evaluates several opportunities for enhancing the natural environment within the park, including enhancing the west side of the park by daylighting part or all of the stream, removing non-native vegetation, preserving a forested hillside, and restoring shorelines and wetlands. Moving east in the park, more active recreation is provided, including the relocated swim beach and picnic facilities. The EIS evaluates a range of options for types and extent of commercial activity within the park, including vendor kiosks, small watercraft e.g., canoes and kayaks (PPVs) rental, and boat moorage at the marina, and a café. Your preference regarding commercial uses is acknowledged.  28B. Your preference concerning the retention of long-term moorage is acknowledged. All alternatives evaluated in the EIS maintain long-term moorage, in addition to providing 14 transient moorage slips as required by State funding sources. The No-Action Alternative evaluates the retention of existing public moorage. In addition, a launch and temporary moorage for PPVs is included in the action alternatives, broadening the boating community who will benefit from the public marina.  28C. Comment noted.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) Letter #29, Rolfe		City's Response to Comment
PAMELA ROLFE	101 101 <sup>ST</sup> Ave. S.E., #101B Bellevue, WA 98004	
Councilmembers Bellevue City Council City of Bellevue 450 110 <sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Bellevue, WA 98009-9012  Councilmembers:  I am a resident of the Meydenbauer neighborhood an proposed Waterfront Park at Meydenbauer Bay. This expensive extension of downtown Bellevue.  The Bellevue City Council needs to consider the folkon a proposed Waterfront Park at Meydenbauer Bay. This expensive extension of downtown Bellevue.  The Bellevue City Council needs to consider the folkon a proposed Waterfront Park at Meydenbauer Bay. This expensive extension of downtown Bellevue.  The Bellevue City Council needs to consider the folkon a proposed Waterfront Park at the Louncil and the Meydenbauer Bay Venture and the Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors's Assn.  Find above are only a few of my concerns and the conformation and the Meydenbauder neighborhood by the development. I ask, that as a concerned citizen, to ple to minimize the impact of the new Waterfront Park at this quiet neighborhood.  Thank you for your consideration.  Sincerely,  Pamela Rolfe  cc: Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors's Assn.	d adamantly oppose the current is is not a "true park" but is an owing:  on station would add to the traffic t.  orage?  or boats is inappropriate for the er Beach Park is certainly not the s.  cerns of other residences of the at would negatively inpact the urning it into a commercial case reevaluate your plans in order	<ul> <li>29A. Comment noted.</li> <li>29B. Traffic impacts related to the closure of 100th Avenue SE are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS.</li> <li>29C. Reducing and reconfiguring moorage allows a variety of park uses to be accommodated. In addition, the changes allow the moorage piers to be more consistent with current design standards and regulations, and allow restoration of a sizeable portion of the shoreline.</li> <li>29D. Your preferences regarding these features are acknowledged.</li> <li>29E. Comment noted.</li> <li>29F. Comment noted.</li> </ul>



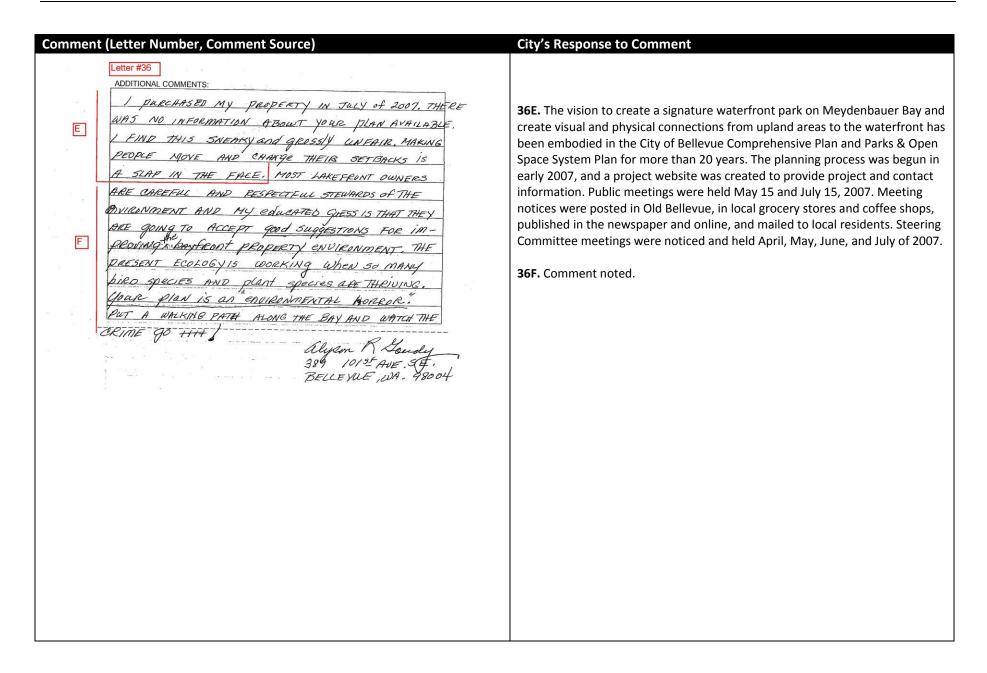




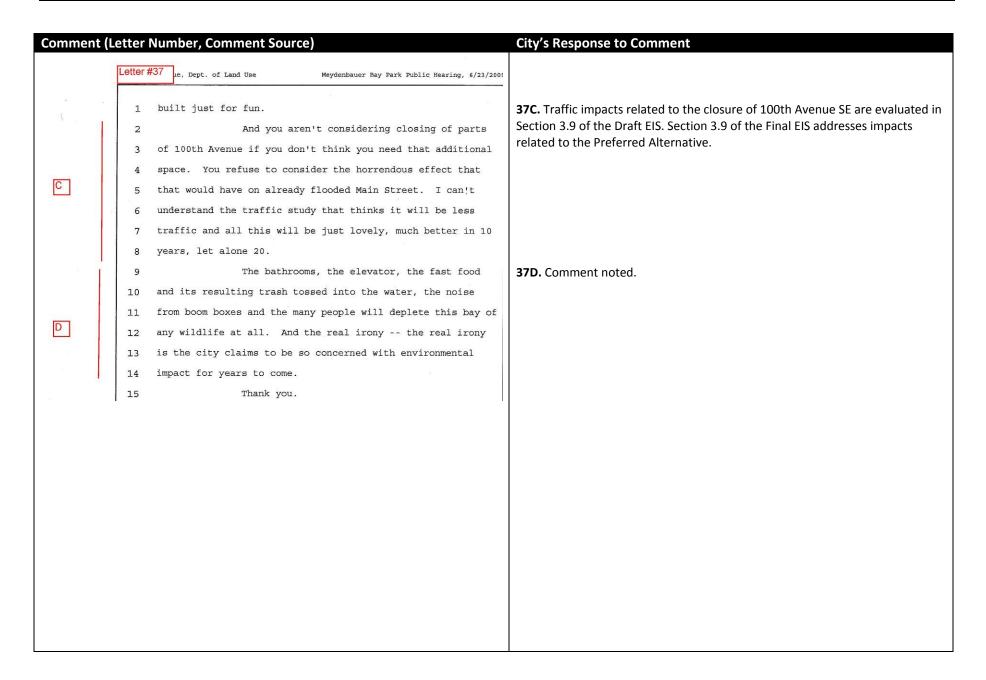
nmen	t (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
er #3	4, Mastropaolo	
12"	Letter #34	<b>34A.</b> EDAW has a number of offices and disciplines within the firm. One team of designers and planners is assigned to the master plan and public process,
¥	1. I question the fact that the company that did the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was hired by EDAW, the company that came up with the alternative park plans. This is akin to a pharmaceutical company awarding grants to doctors and scientists to do a study on one of their own newly developed drugs. One must surely view such studies with some skepticism. Why didn't the city seek out an independent third party to do the DEIS?	and another team of scientists, planners, and engineers is preparing the SEI documents. EDAW and its subconsultants, Perteet and Moffat and Nichol, possess the necessary credentials, professional background, and expertise t prepare SEPA documents such as this one. The firm's familiarity with the
В	2. The impact of the closure of 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE was determined by the DEIS to be negligible. The question is negligible to whom. It surely is not negligible to the 1300 plus families living south of Main street. I understand that the traffic study was obtained from some hard data combined with computer modeling software. Is it possible that these models are incorrect? I would have liked to see a worst case scenario where a significant impact to traffic was assumed and then a set of solutions that would mitigate the congestion. If it turns out there are no reasonable solutions then I believe the decision to close 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave. SE would become less desirable. In any case, the Steering Committee would have some additional information on which to base their recommendations.	proposal allows better integration of the planning and environmental revie processes. <b>34B.</b> See Comment Letter 9, Response 9B; Comment Letter 23, Response 23 and Comment Letter 24, Response 24A.
С	3. The noise analysis in the DEIS showed no significant impact to the surrounding neighborhood. The Meydenbauer Community has repeatedly pointed out the short distance between the proposed park and opposing shoreline as well as how sound propagates over water. Common sense tells me that on a busy day with the approach of transient boats, rental canoes and kayaks on the bay and people venturing along the proposed walkways that extend out into the bay, there will be a significant noise impact. I admit that noise level is somewhat subjective but people who live around the bay have a noise baseline as their standard and I submit that there will be a significant increase to that level from the proposed park plans which is unacceptable; contrary to what the DEIS says.	<b>34C.</b> See Comment Letter 14, Response 14V. <b>34D.</b> The funding in question is through the Washington State Recreation a Conservation Office. Based on the requirements of the State funding progra
D	4. I have mentioned transient boats in my point 3 above. I understand that the proposed park needs to supply 14 transient moorage slots because of grant money the city received from the state. One way to mitigate the noise factor would be to somehow eliminate the transient moorage in the park. The question is would it be feasible or even possible to return the grant money to the state to eliminate the transient moorage requirement?	it is not feasible to return the money and eliminate transient moorage. <b>34E.</b> Any of the action alternatives would improve the ecology of the site because they include stream daylighting, native landscaping, shoreline
E	In summary, I think the DEIS has not considered the impact the alternative park proposals would have on the well being of the entire Meydenbauer Community; and here I mean people, wildlife and lake water quality. It appears that the DEIS was designed to conform to the Bellevue City Council's set of criteria for the park and the resulting park alternative plans crafted by EDAW, the employer of the company that prepared the DEIS. In my mind it is the total environment that takes precedent in these studies. The DEIS should reflect how the proposed city mandate and resulting alternative park plans conform to it and not the other way around.	restoration, new storm water treatment facilities, and reduced impervious surfaces and overwater coverage.
	Respectfully submitted,  Small Mostrofaclo Berry Martinford  Donald Mastropaolo 341 101st Ave SE Bellevue, WA 98004	

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)		City's Response to Comment
Letter #35, Kulp (Comment Form)		
¥ 8	CONTACT INFORMATION  NAME: Betty Lu Kulp  ADDRESS: STATE: ZIP:  351-10(3+A)U.S.E., Bellevac, WA 98004  E-MAIL:	
A	Please add my name to your project mailing list YES NO  COMMENTS: Please provide comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.  Jurning left from 1015 + Ave. S. E. onto Main St. is difficult most of the time but anytime after 2 P.H. it is almost impossible because of all the traffic of mome from The Schools on the west side follows.  The Schools on the west side of congestion in that area or 100 th closed to vehicular.  Traffic.	35A. Comment noted.

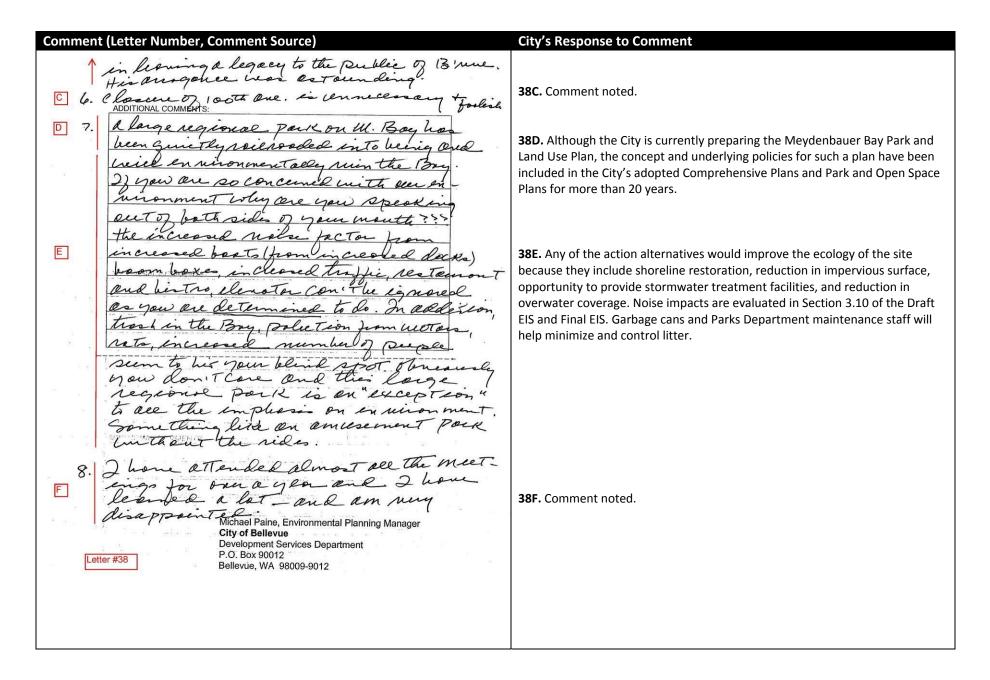
Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #36, Goudy (Comment Form)	
Return (or Postmark) by July 20, 2009  CONTACT INFORMATION  NAME: ALYSON R. GOUDY  ADDRESS: GOUDY  ADDRESS: GOUDY  E-MAIL:  E-MAIL:	
Please add my name to your project mailing list. YES NO  COMMENTS: Please provide comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.	
PACK IS THE PROBLEM, AND and am ashamed of  The arrogance of the City of Bellevue planners.  Are there any members from Meydenbauer Bay	<b>36A.</b> Several Steering Committee members live, work, and/or own property in the immediate neighborhood.
AREA ON THE PLANNING GROUP WHERE IS OUR RE- PRESENTATION?  THIS BAY IS FAR TOO SMALL TO HANDEL THE PLANNED CIRCUS! THE NOISE AND POLLUTION FROM	<b>36B.</b> Comment noted.
THE PARK, RESTAURANTS, CTC. SHOULD NOT BE BOURNE  by those who paid to LIVE ON THEBAY. A PROPER  PARK WOULD BE A REAL ASSET, AN OVERWHELMING	
Submit comments at the June 23, 2009 public hearing or mail comments by July 20, 2009 to Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager, City of Bellevue, Development Services Department, P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012.  And Dut of Seale PLAN Would be an ENVIRONMENTAL	<b>36C.</b> Any of the action alternatives would improve the ecology of the site over the long term because they include shoreline restoration, reduction in impervious surface, opportunity to provide stormwater treatment facilities, and reduction in over water coverage.
DISASTER. THE MODIFIEDS AND CREATURES HAVE A FINE ENVIRON MENTY BRINGING HOARDS OF PEOPLE WILL ADD CRIMER POLLUTION, PLUS Absurd COSTS, PLEASE LISTEN & THINK.	<b>36D.</b> Comment noted.



Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) Letter #37, Drais (Public Hearing Transcript)		City's Response to Comment
A	4 Letter #37  SUE DRAIS: I hope I'm not duplicating, but I  5 haven't been able to hear a lot, so I'm not sure. Forgive  6 me if I am.  7 I'm Sue Drais. I live at 393 101st Avenue  8 Southeast in the Bayshore East condos. I have lived there  9 for nine years.  10 Our areas is quiet. It's as seriously  11 dedicated to the environment as we can possibly be. We have  12 egrets, eagles, blue herons, wood ducks, and many other  13 waterfowl. Beaver families, muskrats, turtles, raccoons,  14 and all the wildlife are a common site. We have no docks or  15 bulkheads or motor boats. We have a perfectly natural	37A. Comment noted.
В	there. It is very quiet and peaceful.  With all of the proposed development of this park, the environment of Meydenbauer Bay not only our end will change forever. I cannot believe that this large regional park will have little or no effect on this area. This park is intended to attract many people from downtown, but also would allow motorboats from all over to fill the new slips on the new docks. 85 I think new parking spaces, some in an underground garage, aren't being	37B. Any of the action alternatives would improve the ecology of the site because they include shoreline restoration, reduction in impervious surface, opportunity to provide stormwater treatment facilities, and reduction in over water coverage. The EIS evaluates a range of alternatives for accommodating long-term moorage. All action alternatives would reduce long-term moorage by varying amounts; all alternatives would provide 14 transient slips for visiting boaters to enjoy the park, visit Old Bellevue, Downtown Park, or Wildwood Park. The number of parking spaces provided will be determined by the facilities and uses included in the final plan and will be need to provide adequate capacity to serve park users on a typical day.



Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #38, Drais (Comment Form)	
CONTACT INFORMATION  NAME OF B. DRAS  ADDRESS.  ADDRESS.  ADDRESS.  ADDRESS.  B. DRAS  ADDRESS.  ADDRESS.  B. DRAS  CITY:  STATE:  STATE: STATE  ST	<b>38A.</b> See Comment Letter 13, Response 13B regarding the Shoreline Master Program Update process. These comments do not address the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan project.
B are Julianies the traffic study are Julaciones the Pork Commissioner	<b>38B.</b> Comment noted.
reflection of his Mon Duran a inter-	



Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #39, Cordova (Comment Form)	
	39A. Comment noted.  39B. Traffic impacts related to the closure of 100th Avenue SE are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS. Section 3.9 of the Final EIS addresses traffic impacts related to the Preferred Alternative.

Comment	(Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #40,	Brewer (Public Hearing Transcript)	
ı	1 Letter #40 LOUISE BREWER: I'm Louise Brewer, and I live 2 at 391 101st Avenue Southeast, Bellevue. I've lived at	<b>40A.</b> Siltation/sedimentation is recognized as an existing concern of many shoreline residents. Also, see Comment Letter 8, Response 8E.
A	Bayshore East Condos since 1993 and have enjoyed the birds and water foul that are a part of the Bay.  I viewed the environmental impact study as being very weak in the assessment of low impact on wildlife and water quality. Heavy silting and pollution in this very shallow end of the bay have been ongoing problems. The city seems to have no interest in dealing with these issues. The current plans for the park address only a small number of the streams and drains that flow into the bay. The plan should address all of these in order to improve the water	The Draft (and Final) EIS acknowledges that the proposal could result in short-term increases in siltation due to construction activity. Long-term siltation impacts are not expected to result from the project. Construction-related activities will be subject to permit requirements, to be determined at the project level, to control potential impacts such as siltation.  40B. Traffic impacts related to the closure of 100th Avenue SE are evaluated in Section 3.0 of the Draft FIS and Final FIS.
B	13 quality of the entire bay.  14 We at Bayshore East are very opposed to the  15 possible closure of 100th east. It is used daily to bypass  16 the heavy traffic on Main Street. We're very concerned  17 about the noise pollution. This is a very small bay and not  18 open water like Kirkland. My observation has been that the  19 City of Bellevue seems to pay very little attention to the  20 wishes and concerns of the taxpayers and voters that live on  21 the bay, so I hope we're really being heard.	Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS.  40C. Noise impacts were evaluated in Section 3.10 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS. Also see Comment Letter 14, Response 14V.  40D. Comment noted.
E	Lastly, I do support the concept of a park  similar to all the other parks in Bellevue. I would define  that as a place to escape to to enjoy nature and the beauty  of the bay. Commercialism should have no place in this  plan.  Thank you.	<b>40E.</b> Comment noted.

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)		City's Response to Comment
Letter 41, Brewer (Comment Form + Letter)		
	Letter #41 COMMENT FORM  Return (or Postmark) by July 20, 2009	
A	CONTACT INFORMATION  NAME: LOUISE BREWER  ADDRESS: STATE: STATE: 21P: 09 ALE SE BELLEVUE, UA 98004  E-MAIL: Labrewa 1 & Compast, Met  Please add my name to your project mailing list YES NO  COMMENTS: Please provide comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.  See attacked  James favor & pudlohiau friludly park.  As a rudeut of Aughous walk in this area daily. The traffic or main st.  is so rongested what it is way rushy risky to cross the street. Do not alone to the street.	<b>41A.</b> Traffic impacts related to the closure of 100th Avenue SE are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS. Section 3.9 of the Final EIS addresses traffic impacts related to the Preferred Alternative.

Comment (	Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
×	Letter #41 July 10, 2009	
9	Submitted by Louise Brewer and Robert Drexler Bayshore East Condominiums 391 101 <sup>st</sup> Ave. S.E. Bellevue, WA 98004	
(see	We have lived at Bayshore East Condos since 1993 and have enjoyed the birds and waterfowl that are part of the Bay.	
transcript)	We view the preliminary EIS as being very weak in the assessment of low impact on wild life and water quality.  We observe that the City of Bellevue pays little attention to the wishes and	
В	concerns of the tax payers and voters that live on the Bay. Citizen input has been dismissed as UNFOUNDED FEARS!	<b>41B.</b> Comment noted.
(see transcript)	HEAVY SILTING AND POLLUTION, in this very shallow end of the Bay have been ongoing problems. The City seems to have no interest in dealing with these issues. The current plans for the park addresses only a small number of streams and drains that flow into the Bay. The plan should address all of these in order to improve the water quality of the whole Bay.	
	We are very concerned about <b>NOISE POLLUTION</b> . This is a very small Bay and is not open water like Kirkland.	
	We do support the concept of a park similar to all other parks in Bellevue. We would define that as a place to escape to enjoy nature and the beauty of the Bay.	
C	Our Bayshore East shoreline is sandwiched between two potentially high activity areas: 1) A City park on one side and 2) The doubling of density on the other.	<b>41C.</b> Comment noted.
(see transcript)	COMMERCIALISM SHOULD HAVE NO PLACE IN THE PARK PLAN.	

# Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #41 **41D.** Evaluation of the impacts of Alternatives 1 and 2 on water quality, 1) The present direction of future Meydenbauer Bay development is toward a City park producing noise pollution, and water disturbance at the end of wildlife, and noise is contained in Sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.10 of the Draft EIS, the Bay with a kayak and canoe rental program. These proposed policies respectively. Impacts of the Preferred Alternative are evaluated in Sections 3.2, D will invariably replace the tranquility now enjoyed at the end of the Bay. 3.3, and 3.10 of the Final EIS, respectively. City policies regarding a commercialized city park conflicts with the preservation of wildlife in our area. This increased activity from such a park will most likely drive wildlife away from Meydenbauer Bay to other more peaceful areas of the lake. **41E.** The action alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIS, as well as the Preferred 2) The city policy is to increase density from 74 units to 156 units at the end Alternative evaluated in the Final EIS, are estimated to increase the number of of Meydenbauer Bay. Higher density, with more people activity, will also E dwelling units in the study area by a total of 55 over the No-Action Alternative, likely increase traffic congestion and drive wildlife to more peaceful areas of the lake. Once again, City policies regarding higher density conflicts with not from 74 units to 156 units. Evaluation of the impacts of Alternatives 1 and the preservation of wildlife in our area. 2 on wildlife are contained in Section 3.3 of the Draft EIS; see Section 3.3 of the Final EIS for an evaluation of impacts of the Preferred Alternative. WE, AT BAYSHORE EAST, ARE VERY OPPOSED TO THE (see POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF 100<sup>TH</sup>/SE. IT IS USED DAILY TO transcript) BYPASS THE HEAVY TRAFFIC ON MAIN ST. Louise a Brewer

Comment	(Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #42		
A   B	Letter #42  I am Joanne Roddis 381 101 <sup>st</sup> Ave SE Bellevue Concern: The life of the lake It is my opinion, that the life of the lake should be the city's main priority right now. Every year there is more milfoil, waterlillies and other plants that are choking the lake. In all three plans there are many factors that will continue to make the lake more polluted. Particularly the plans that involve eating areas and more structures close to the lake. With these current plans we will get more people, more food debris, more oil, gas, noise, poor air quality, and pollution from the new construction to name a few of the pollution problems. Is this what we want in our waterfront? So please tell me specifically in all three plans how you are going to address these issues?	<b>42A.</b> Comment noted. <b>42B.</b> Most of these impacts were evaluated in Sections 3.2 (Surface and Water Quality), 3.10 (Noise), and 3.11 (Air Quality) of the Draft EIS; additional evaluation is provided in Sections 3.2, 3.10, and 3.11 of the Final EIS. Those sections identify potential measures to mitigate potential impacts. Specific mitigating measures will be identified at the project level. The action alternatives evaluated in the EIS eliminate most of the parking and asphalt at the shoreline edge, and reduce the number of permanent moorage slips. These elements of the proposal should be beneficial to water quality.
C	Safety and traffic In your proposal to close 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE. What will be the alternative plan to direct traffic. Even with 100 <sup>th</sup> opened now I have seen on some days at rush hour cars lined up from the corner of Main and 101 <sup>st</sup> to Lake Washington blvd waiting for the lights to change. On 101 <sup>st</sup> ave SE approaching Main, I have seen cars waiting on 101 <sup>st</sup> jammed up as far as 100 <sup>th</sup> , where it intersects with 101st. Where and how will you direct traffic so that it is not worse, once when 100 <sup>th</sup> closes?	<ul> <li>42C. Traffic impacts related to the closure of 100th Avenue SE are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS. Section 3.9 of the Final EIS addresses traffic impacts related to the Preferred Alternative.</li> <li>42D. Pedestrian crossing routes and lighting systems will be addressed at the</li> </ul>
	On the issue of safety: Because there will be more traffic and people congestion, Will you have a safe pedestrian walk way and lighting system to cross the busy streets going down to the park?  Have you considered the risk of more people being hurt from falling off these new proposed docks?  Have you considered the potential crime problem with fast food places open up all night?  Have you considered the neighborhoods with small children when neighborhood streets will be used for parking and more traffic?  I ask you to please take these issues seriously and give us answers in a document that we can all have as a reassurance your plans are to keep Bellevue the safe and beautiful city it already is.	<ul> <li>42E. Comment noted. Project-specific design will incorporate applicable building code and safety-related standards.</li> <li>42F. See Comment Letter 20, Response 20C.</li> <li>42G. Traffic impacts resulting from Alternatives 1 and 2 are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS; traffic impacts resulting from the Preferred Alternative are evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Final EIS. With respect to parking, the park is intended to provide sufficient parking on-site to accommodate visitors during typical use periods.</li> <li>42H. Comment noted.</li> </ul>

Letter #43, Roddis  Letter #43	
(1997) (1997) (1997) (1997)	
average chizen to have a summary of each section. Easier to comprehend, could be less money and if one wanted, more information one could spend the extra money to get the large and complete EIS statement.  I will make a few general comments. On page 1-1, last paragraph where many objectives are listed. One of which is the identification that Bellevue is a waterfront city.  Bellevue can never be another Kirkland and hence identified as a waterfront city.	43A. Comment noted. 43B. Comment noted.
Bellevue has so much more to offer. First of all let's keep "old Main" as it was. Enlarge upon the HISTORY of Bellevue and its beginnings. I could see redoing old Bellevue as it once was a unique little town. Bellevue is unique because right now it has all of the large city amenities and very few problems that large cities have. That is one area where Bellevue is unique. What the city is trying to do will destroy the uniqueness of Bellevue, bringing in more commercialism to the waterfront, closing 100 <sup>th</sup> , and building larger and taller buildings. All of this will add to more congestion on the neighborhood roads, more pollution in the water, increase the rat population because of added restaurants, and generally destroy any uniqueness Bellevue had in the beginning.	
The EIS statement clearly was written as if this is going to happen and this is a forgone conclusion. Where is our democratic system? Please listen to your constituents. We live here; we will live with the congestion, the dirty beaches, the polluted lake, the increase in crime and many other negatives that will develop as the time goes on. Not to mention the years of construction, dirt, increase in taxes and unthinkable congestion during the	<b>43C.</b> The purpose of the EIS is to disclose and evaluate the impacts of a proposal, so that the decision-making body is as informed as possible about those impacts prior to making a decision. The Preferred Alternative is not a foregone conclusion; the City Council will make the final decision on the proposal.
us in a year or so? Why must we live with more uncertainty as to how and where our tax dollars will be used? Please slow down, give this more thought and help all of us maintain a clean, low crime rate, polluted free beach and waterfront.	<b>43D.</b> It takes many years for a project such as this to come to fruition; this project has been envisioned in the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan for more than 20 years, and has undergone (to date) more than 2 years of planning. Permitting, financing, and construction will take several more years.

Comme	ent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
etter#	‡44, Wilkins	
.* .*	Draft Environmental Impact Statement  Jennifer Wilkins 363 101st Ave. S.E Bellevue Wa. 98004 jenw2@clearwire.net July 19, 2009  To the Meydenbauer Bay Project Managers: Michael Bergtrom, Robin Cole, Brian Scott, Doug Leigh, Iris Tocher, and Michael Paine  Last week I read an article in the Bellevue Reporter concerning "critical areas training for homeowners" and I was reminded of the ecologically fragile quality of	<b>44A.</b> The new park will adhere to all applicable policies and regulations. The action alternatives evaluated in the EIS contain many features intended to
A	Meydenbauer Bay. I hope that every decision you are making in regard to our new Meydenbauer Park adheres to the same regulations and permit policies you require of owners. In your hands you hold the future of one of the most beautiful, residential/marina bays in the nation. The shoreline park like the downtown park will be a "treasure" to all citizens if you avoid commercialism and maintain order.	improve environmental quality. The EIS evaluates the environmental impacts of potential commercial uses.
В	One major problem with the shoreline park is noise transfer since any noise from one end of the bay will be amplified to the other areas of the bay. Just yesterday I had a friend visit for a couple hours and <u>one</u> high-speed boat down the lake sounded like an airplane taking off drowning out all conversation for three to four minutes. Imagine what <b>fifty boats</b> with high-powered engines will do to this environment every day from early May to late Oct. each year. Recently, several young boaters cruised slowly around the lake with powerful sound systems blaring rap music (boom, boom, boom=war zone sounds) scaring away blue herons, ospreys, beavers, otters, etc. If you sincerely care about the critical areas and the residents of Bellevue I suggest that you <u>protect Meydenbauer Bay</u> by using the following ideas:	<b>44B.</b> Noise impacts are evaluated in Section 3.10 of the Draft EIS and Section 3.10 of the Final EIS. Limitations on transient moorage and other park activitie will be reviewed at the project level and can be adjusted as appropriate over time.
	<ol> <li>Several signs need to be posted on buoys close to the mouth of the bay stating the speed limit for boats and that loud music/noise is prohibited. Three knots per hr. would be good speed limit so the noise level is low and accidents averted. Signs could also designate the amount of the fines.</li> </ol>	
	<ol><li>The City of Bellevue will need to hire a police boat from May 1 to mid Oct. to enforce boating rules on the lake and maintain a peaceful environment.</li></ol>	
	3 Limit the day moorage to 10:00 P.M so the party boaters will go to "party docks" in Lake Washington for their drinking parties and not to residential, family oriented, Meydenbauer Bay.	
С	4. The City may want to buy or subsidize a restaurant on main street that specializes in fast food, particularly seafood. It could be popular all year round and eliminate kiosks that produce extra trash near the bay.	<b>44C.</b> The City has no plans to pursue subsidizing or purchasing business interests on Main Street.
D	<ol><li>Reevaluate the the high rise concrete platform viewing station design that is incongruent with the natural state of the bay.</li></ol>	<b>44D.</b> Graphics contained in the EIS are conceptual in nature; design details of park components such as the viewing platform will be determined at the project level.

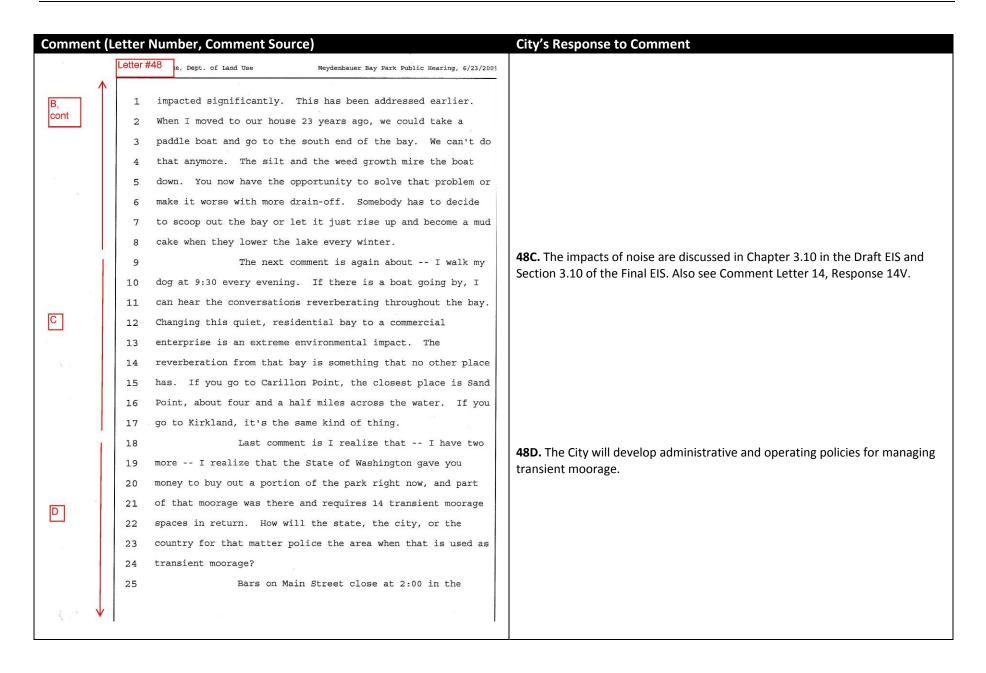
Commor	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
E	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:  6. Provide weekly cleanup along the shoreline for all the properties impacted by additional boat and park polution.  7. Restrict or eliminate the rental kayaks planned at the park. We do not need to encourage insensitive people scaring off the wildlife and birds along the shoreline.  Thank you for your consideration all the above ideas. I welcome the new park if the planning respects nature and the community. Sincerely Yours, Jennifer Wilkins	44E. Comment noted.
Letter #4	15, Jones	
to		
2	Letter #45	
	Original Message From: sql spice@yahoo.com [mailto:sql spice@yahoo.com] Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 1:53 PM To: Paine, Michael Subject: Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan  Date Sent: 6/4/2009 1:53:01 PM	
A	Name: Denise Jones  Comment: I think the No-Action is the least preferable. Downtown  Bellevue is moving from a boring suburban wasteland to a fun vibrant ped-friendly city; that brings more young people and more money to the city. Therefore we should focus on ped walkways, and shared open spaces that can be used for concerts, plays, sports, and picnics. Please don't make the mistake of the Downtown Park and neglect to put in ped trails	45A. Comment noted.
В	(there's so much useless space in the middle where there should be walkways). The visuals from the Alternatives #1 and #2 show greater walking spaces. And please- NO OPEN ROAD. Bellevue needs to get over	<b>45B.</b> Comment noted.
C	its myth that cars are a right. It's not healthy, and parking spaces are better used for park open space.  As a Meydenbauer/downtown Bellevue resident, I love the walkways and design of Alternative #2!!! address: 150 102nd Ave SE #204 mailing list: Yes City, state, zip: Bellevue, WA 98004	45C. Comment noted.

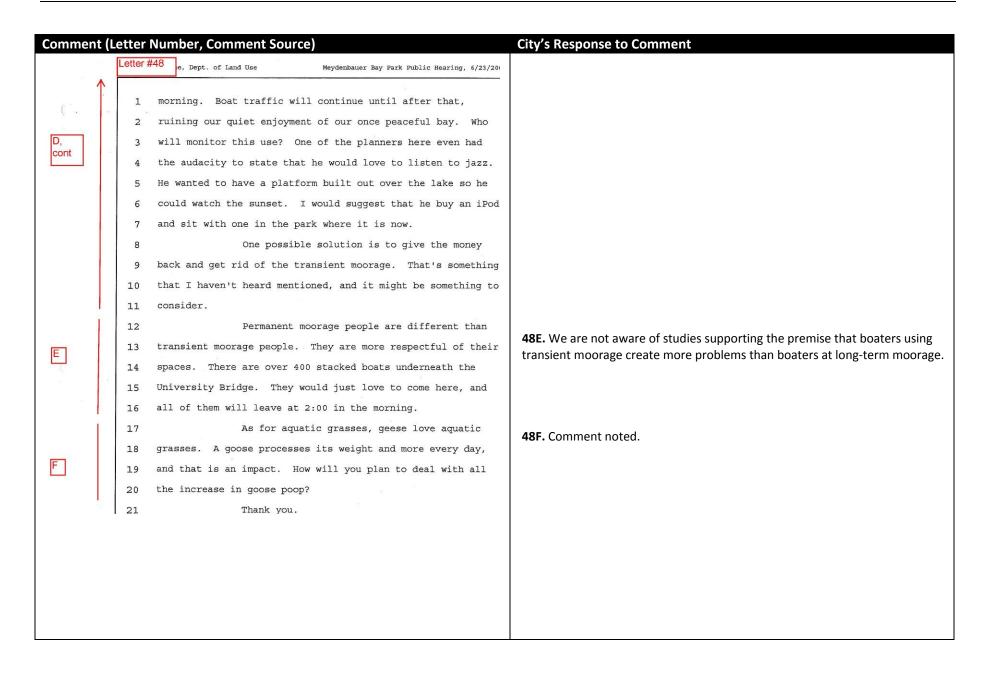
Comme	nt (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #4	46, Parker	
B   C	Letter #46  From: parkersite@msn.com To: mpaine@bellevue.wa.gov  Subject: Re: Comments for the DEIS, East end of Meydenbauer Bay Quality  TO: Michael Paine	46A. Comment noted. See Response 46C below  46B. Comment noted. The City performs routine outfall maintenance which includes removal of accumulated sediments at the mouth of the outfall located at the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club property. These City activities reduce siltation and shallow-water conditions. The Draft EIS evaluates water quality in Section 3.2 and concludes that water quality in the bay will be improved by the implementation of any of the action alternatives because any development will be required to provide state-of-the-practice site stormwater management and treatment facilities. Section 3.2 of the Final EIS provides similar analysis related to the Preferred Alternative. Also see Comment Letter 8, Response 8E, and Comment Letter 46, Response 46C and 46D.  46C. Siltation/sedimentation is recognized as an existing concern of shoreline residents. The Draft (and Final) EIS acknowledges that the proposal could result in short-term increases in siltation due to construction activity. Long-term siltation impacts are not expected to result from the project. Construction-related activities will be subject to permit requirements, to be determined at the project level, to control potential impacts such as siltation. Also see Comment Letter 8, Response 8E.

#### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** 46D. The City has an easement, unrelated to the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan, across the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club parking lot for a \_etter #46 stormwater outfall. As a condition of the easement, the City performs routine outfall maintenance which includes removal of accumulated sediments at the on the South and Easterly end of the bay, including a street drainage canal dumping runoff between the addresses of 9840 and 9830 SE Shoreland Drive, are combining to make mouth of the outfall, and provides measures to contain floatable debris during cont the lake bottom rise over time. The City of Bellevue has somehow reached an agreement with the Meydenbauer Yacht Club to dredge and clean up the area of run-off on the high flow events. The City is undertaking these measures as part of its program northern side, but has no interest in investigating and dealing with run-off problems on the D to maintain its stormwater facilities and minimize operational effects. south and east side of the bay. Ecosystems similar to this at this end of lake, if nothing is done to intervene, will over time, return this area to a meadow. The lake bottom in this area is a combination E 46E and 46F. Comments noted. soft mud and biomass which layers several feet deep. This several feet of muck makes it impossible to walk out into the lake, as one would sink several feet into this muck. Even in the summer, the lake depth a this end can become as little as 2 - 3 ft. This **46G.** All of the action alternatives would improve long-term water quality, is evidenced by boats and waterCraft getting stuck in the mud all the time. through implementation of shoreline restoration and habitat improvements, Also, floating debris, loose milfoil / other vegetation, and even fuel on the water surface of the lake ends up being pushed by wind to the south and east end of the bay naturally, daylighting of at least a portion of the creek and removal of non-native species creating a mess that homeowners have to deal with. Some summers, there is often a in the ravine, wetland enhancement, reduction of impervious surfaces, foaming algea, several inches thick, floating on the surface of the water which is blown easterly along these shores, making it impossible to use the water. Typically, the introduction of stormwater treatment opportunities, and reduction in total homeowners, themselves, have to clean up all of the aforementioned problems. moorage and overwater coverage. The potential for exacerbating these problems certainly would exist with further G commercialization of the waterfront just west of this area, without first putting a comprehensive plan in place to address not only the area in front of the park, but these **46H.** The City does not own or control the lake. Permits are required for significant issues related to the easterly end of Meydenbauer Bay as well. property owners to apply herbicides. Both public and private waterfront To begin with, why does the city treat the vegetation at the waterfront park only, a property that they own, and not deal with it as a unit at this end of the bay, where the property owners can apply for these permits to control aquatic noxious weeds public expects and wants a desireable and full use of the bay? on their shorelands. Http:\\www.govlink.org\watersheds\8\action\lakeside-The City of Bellevue is interested in governing what happens with the lake in front of living\aquatic-weeds.aspx describes various methods that waterfront property private property owners, and even in the first 25 to 50 feet of their property that fronts the lake, but negates their own governance when it comes to meeting their obligations owners can use to manage aquatic weeds. and responsibities with lake and water quality. I don't believe that this double standard should exist. **461.** The Shoreline Management Act is a State law that requires the City to The City of Bellevue, King County, The State of Washington, and, if needed, the Army Core of Engineers should provide an effective plan so that further harm to this end of the bay prepare a Shoreline Master Program (SMP) pursuant to Department of Ecology will not occur, and in fact, a remediation of existing issues is dealt with. guidelines and in 2003 required cities to update their SMPs in accordance with J Thus far, the DEIS has failed to address, discuss or investigate any of these new Ecology guidelines. The latter process is underway. Shoreline setbacks are Quality Issues related to the eastern End of Meydenbauer Bay. How can the City of Bellevue Recreation Department create a "Vision of a Beautiful Downtown part of those guidelines. The new park will be required to comply with the Waterfront Park" and ignore the obvious environmental and quality issues at this regulations that result from the SMP Update process, and conformance with end of the bay, making this "vision" an impossiblity? those regulations will be ensured through the permitting process. Any plan that is put in place for the development of Bellevue Waterfront Park has to address these problems. **46J.** See Response 46G, above. David L. Parker PhD

nment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
er #47, Skoog Neil	
Letter #47 Meydenbauer Bay DEIS Comments June 23, 2009	<b>47A.</b> See Section 3.10 of the Final EIS and Comment Letter 14, Response 14 for additional discussion of noise impacts.
I'm Anita Skoog Neil.  I moved to Bellevue in 1952, and use two last names, as I'm proud of my family's contribution to the NW Mountaineering/Skiing Community. I've lived directly across from the Meydenbauer Beach Park since 1996.  I will touch on 3 areas tonight: 1) one of the environment impacts elements that concerns me - Noise; 2) the relationship between the Park Planning and the Shoreline Masterplan Update; and 3) the Public Involvement Component and its impact on the final outcome.  First – the Environmental Impact Element - Noise.  Ski boats rafted in the middle of the Bay are only about 600 ft from our home; the park is about 1200-1300 ft from our house. Recent loud groups have reminded me to pay attention to the noise section of the EIS.  The EIS says that none of the Park alternatives would have an appreciable effect on the surrounding community. I am surprised to find there is no study of the amplifying effect of noise across water, though residents have brought it up repeatedly at Steering Meetings. This is just one example of the need for further study before the EIS can be a meaningful planning document.  Next Item – Park Planning & Shoreline Master Plan Update  Many may not be aware, but the Shoreline Masterplan Update appears to be zooming ahead of the Park Planning process. While we are discussing No-Action & Alternative 1&2, the Shoreline Masterplan is suggesting aggressive zoning, called "Environmental Use-Designation". The proposed Civic Marina Overlay Zone, outlines new Permitted Uses.  Those uses include: Restaurants with water views/decks, Shops Oriented to Water, Multifamily Residential (referred to as "Resorts with uses open to the public"), Signage, Educational Facilities, Possible Public Boat Launch, Fuel Dock, and even "Residential live-aboard" Marine uses. Under proposed allowed Conditional Uses, the zoning also includes: Dry stacked storage and a Ferry	47B. Except for signage, none of the uses identified in this comment (restaurants, shops, multifamily residential/resorts, educational facilities, public boat launch [except for PPV launch], fuel dock, residential live-aboar marine uses, dry stacked storage, ferry landing) are included in the shorelir jurisdiction under any of the action alternatives evaluated in the EIS. Signage will likely be provided as necessary to convey park-related information and regulations or directional information. Signage needs will be determined at project level.  The Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan has followed the progress of Shoreline Master Program Update process, and has taken into consideration existing shoreline regulations and policies, as well as Washington State guidelines for the SMP Update. The action alternatives evaluated in the EIS consistent with the goals of the Shoreline Management Act. The new park to be required to adhere to all applicable shoreline policies and regulations in effect at the time of project implementation.
Landing.  It seems, with the Shoreline Masterplan on such a divergent path from the Park Planning, we are potentially wasting our time - deluding ourselves that we are doing meaningful planning in this forum.  Last Item — Public Involvement  Between June 18 <sup>th</sup> and July 30th, there are so far 9 different meetings, or milestones, either on the Park Planning process or the Shoreline Masterplan Update. The goal of this schedule is to have an approved Final Hybrid Alternative from the Steering Committee by July 30 <sup>th</sup> . That schedule will be attached to my written comments.  Most important for us to understand is that the Steering Committee is being asked to narrow down or declare preferences on each Park element at their next two meetings, starting next Tuesday, June 30 <sup>th</sup> . We know the Steering Committee will not have full EIS Comments from this Public Hearing tonight, and realistically, won't have complete EIS Comments until apx July 20 <sup>th</sup> , and yet 10 days later, the Final Hybrid Alternative is scheduled to be approved.  Such a schedule seems designed to discourage even the most devoted. The EIS is an integral part of the planning process, and the Committee is being asked to make decisions/ preferences in an information vacuum.	<b>47C.</b> Steering Committee members were each provided with a copy of the Draft EIS, and were presented with a summary of the Draft EIS findings at t June 18, 2009 meeting. The committee attended the June 23, 2009, public hearing on the Draft EIS and heard the testimony first-hand. They were also provided copies of all written comments received on the Draft EIS during the public comment period. The committee developed a Preferred Alternative after the close of the Draft EIS comment period and after receipt and consideration of all comments. While the Steering Committee has recommended a Preferred Alternative, no final decision on an alternative hear made. The City Council will be the decision maker. That decision will be informed, in part, by the EIS, which will be completed prior to the Council taking action.

<u> </u>	etter Number, Comment Source) Baruffi (Public Hearing Transcript)	City's Response to Comment
A	4 Letter #48 JERRY BARUFFI: I'm Jerry Baruffi. I live at 5 9236 Shoreline Drive. I'm directly across from the existing 6 park and will be directly across from this park when it is 7 built. Some of these my comments will be repeated in 8 some way, but I would like to give it my nuance. 9 All of your designs show a zigzag pattern to 10 get wheelchair access to this park. My experience tells me 11 that these need to be addressed according to the ADA codes, 12 but they don't have to be they don't have to have access 13 to every square inch of the park. If 100th is allowed to be 14 open, and parking is provided at the bottom of that street,	<b>48A.</b> See Comment Letter 25, Response 25A.
B	15 that solves the problem.  16 There's a 85-foot drop between Lake  17 Washington Boulevard and the lake. The simplest way to get  18 down there is to use that road, and then once people are  19 there, people in wheelchairs can go along the boardwalk that  20 is water level and doesn't have any ups and downs in it.  21 If you just think of Chism Park something  22 that I would like to see emulated here there's a separate  23 access to the south end with parking close to the beach and,  24 this is handicapped access.  25 The second point is the bay has already been	48B. Comment noted.





Comment (	Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #49,	Williams	
	Letter #49  From: Amywms1@aol.com [mailto:Amywms1@aol.com]  Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 5:20 PM  To: Paine, Michael  Subject: Meydenbauer Beach  6-4-09  Michael:  I am writing with my thoughts on the absolute absurdity and tragedy of the city's plan to redevelop an already beautiful park, Meydenbauer Beach Park, and along with it, squander tax payer (hard earned) dollars toward personal gain: so that one interested in doing so can more	404 Comment noted
A	easily bring oneself to waterfront areasVisit Kirkland, Seattle, Chicago, San Antonio, etc. if you want to enjoy a latte, dinner, or spend the night on the waterfront.  The city of Bellevue's government vision, yourself included, is way off on this development project. It is a flawed plan because this part of the city is already developed and people are living their lives in and around this immediate area. You can not just change their lives because you want to see the change there. Again, go to Kirkland, Seattle, Santa Monica, Ocean City, etc. if you are longing to dine on the waterfront. A city developed park is a park and should remain so. Parks are simple and beautiful and open at dawn and close at dusk. You bring your own food to parks to cut down on congestion, pollution, and noise levels. This is Easy-Figuring 101.  I find it interesting that everyone who does not live on the water loves to come to the shorelinesincluding those in city government. But, in all honesty, those same people forget	49A. Comment noted.
В	about the neighbors who do live on the water (and pay the tax burden for it). You have to be very careful about coming in and changing a person's lifestyle or comfort zone, especially responsible city residents who pay their bills. Why so many drastic (and extremely costly!) changes scheduled for some of our shorelines? Is not the absolute splendor and beauty of a park its simplicity? What about the noise (water carries sounds!), increased traffic (how many stop lights does it take for you to get through Bellevue Way on a Saturday or to turn onto or get through Main Street in downtown Bellevue?), the lure of (too many!) non-residents who perhaps care less about the community they are only visiting, and again and again: what about the loss of the absolute beauty of just being able to relax at the park, take a deep breath, and see where the sky meets the water/shoreline?	<b>49B.</b> Transportation and noise impacts are evaluated in Sections 3.9 and 3.10 of the Draft EIS. Sections 3.9 and 3.10 of the Final EIS address impacts related to the Preferred Alternative. The park will accommodate a wide variety of visitors, including those who want to walk, relax, and view the water.
	Bellevue is focused way to much on continued development. Can't you all see that building after building is destroying my -and everyone else's- views of our beautiful sky and the natural beauties that used to be Bellevue, Washington? I can not get anywhere anymore in town on a Saturday. Traffic is already a mess! Did you see Wall-E?  What is happening to our world? Especially to many of those in Bellevue? What ever happened to simple pleasures and the best things in life are free? I am growing tired of irresponsible people who make decisions just for themselves, without thinking about others. That is what this shoreline vision has always been a small group of people' vision has always been a small group of people' vision for themselves and the throughted the standard of the same always the standard of the same always t	
C	vision has always been, a <i>small</i> group of peoples' visions for themselves and what they would like to do in their leisure time. What about the lives of others/other residents who are very happy with the way the parks are? Bellevue is a city thrivingdoing just fine without extreme shoreline revision. Please! Somebody on council come to your senses. Sell the homes acquired around the Bay of Meydenbauer to would be buyers and model to Bellevue citizens saving for a rainy day. Donate to help the Bellevue Boys and Girls Club, Bellevue Public Schools, Hopelink, or other state charities. Let the residents who live in and around the Bay of Meydenbauer enjoy their lives. All residents of Bellevue will still retreat to the waterfront parks Bellevue offers and still enjoy them as they are nowbeautiful and picture perfect. There is always Kirkland, West Seattle, East Lake Union in Seattle, or the list goes on where one can bring themselves to for boutique hotels, shopping, and dining on shorelines.	<b>49C.</b> Comment noted.

Comr	nent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
	Letter #49  Do you not expect more than 50 or so (150+) boats to come into the bay on any given day? What about the noise? What about the increased pollution? What about the fish you so carefully discussed at the June 21st planning meeting?  Again, I urge you and the rest of the planning committee on this silly and superfluous project to close the books on it! There is such a process called scrapping a plan. As I mentioned to you at the June 21st planning meeting, after much time and many tax dollars already spent, the Hillary	<b>49D.</b> Water quality, fish, and noise impacts are analyzed in Sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.10 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, respectively. See also the responses to Comment Letter 1.
E	Clinton Health Care Initiative failed. Let us learn from history and recognize when the voice of opposition, reason, and justice, is just too great to continue to go forward and waste any more money (that is not one's to begin with). Not one person or family living around the Meydenbauer Beach area wants this plan to go forwardit will be too destructive to too many lives. You have got to start caring more for these families than you do about the fish you are trying to use as a scapegoat to gain even more money for your plans. By the way, second grade science teaches us all—who were paying attention-that fish die naturally because of the natural process called the life cycle. The fish are not dying because they have to swim around dock pilings.  What about the hearts of human beings you are causing to beat faster and to have pain because of this selfish plan to absolutely change/rock their beautiful world they created for themselves and for their families? The plan needs to go. Leave the park the way it is: beautiful and enjoyed by all. Tell me what is the loss in that plan?	49E. Comment noted.
F	Amy Williams Bellevue, WA  P.S. I tried to post my comments to the blog you set up but because I do not have a particular account, I cannot post my thoughts. By the way, this is my fourth time submitting my thoughts in writing. You continue to ask for input, but you are not listening to the years' worth of opposition input.	<b>49F.</b> A blog was not established for the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan. It is possible that the referenced blog is the one established for either the Shoreline Master Program Update project or the Parks & Community Services Park and Open Space Plan update.
Lette	r #50, Smukowski	
4	Letter #50  From: David Smukowski [mailto:david@sensorsinmotion.com] Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2009 11:21 AM To: 'mpaine@bellevuewa.gov' Subject: DEIS Meydenbauer Park  Mr Paine,	
A	Please let this letter serve as public comment from a West Bellevue resident regarding the proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan and associated DEIS, which I have reviewed.  We own two homes in West Bellevue, and my wife was born and raised a block away 54 years ago. I use Meydenbauer Park at least four days a week, year around and the downtown Park once weekly (as well as frequent visits to Chism, Clyde Beach and the slough). From my use it is clear the parks are first beautiful and second not used very much. The City is to be congratulated on its development and management of these jewels.  I expected no less on the proposed plan and received it. It is a masterpiece and will serve to restore Bellevue residents to its roots by connecting water dependent use and land far ALL to enjoy.  Personally, I prefer Alternative 1, with no street. Count us as ardent supporters. Let me be clear the West Bellevue Community Club has rarely represented the thoughts of West Bellevue. I do not know where it will portray the community desires, but I can assure you many of us are thrilled by the proposal. I can't wait for you	<b>50A.</b> Comment noted.
В	to build it.  Please construct in phases so portions of the park remain in use.	<b>50B.</b> It is likely that the park will be constructed in phases. A phasing plan will be developed at a later date.

omment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
tter #51, Paulich	
Bergstrom, Michael  From: Sent: Sauricay, Jely 04, 2009 4/23 PM Enniconini. Patsy, Rich Wagner, Situ VanderHoek; Doug Leigh; Hal Ferris; Degginger, Gresslephane Beighley, Merce Recençe, Marcelle Lynde; iris Tocher, Cole, Robin; Betina Finley; Paine, Michael; Bergstrom, Michael; Bob MacMillan  RE: Comments on Meydenbauer Waterfront Park  Dear Steering Committee members and Mayor Degginger and staff:  Thank you for recommending the closure of 100th Ave NE. It was an absolutely necessary part of creating a first class waterfront park. The impact the road closure will have on traffic can be mitigated. As most of you know, I make this judgment as someone who is very familiar with the traffic at an around the intersection of 100th & Main Street. I have lived in the Enatai neighborhood since 1979. I have driven through the subject area countless times including the many trips to and from Sacred Heart School on Clyde Hill, where my sons were students K-8 <sup>th</sup> grade.  I am sorry I was unable to continue participating on the committee to the end. I have however been with you all in spirit. As you may have heard, I was hospitalized in February after rupturing a disc in my back. That was the 5 <sup>th</sup> disc I have lost over the years. This rupture caused the worst pain and it has resulted in the slowest recovery. I still have chronic pain but the attacks of breakthrough pain now occur less than weekly rather than the hourly episodes I dealt with throughout the winter and well into the spring.  Again, thank you all for your excellent work.  **Rooks M. Paulich**	<b>51A.</b> Comment noted.

	nment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Let	ter #52, Klein	
	Letter #52Original Message From: frankklein@cbbain.com [mailto:frankklein@cbbain.com] Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2009 9:26 PM To: Paine, Michael Subject: Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Date Sent: 6/28/2009 9:25:32 PM	
A	Name: Frank Klein  Comment: Bellevue has no boaters facilities for day use tie up, bathrooms or city access.  This is a source of curiosity for those of us that have boats, entertain on the lake and have to continually pass one of the wealthiest communities in the United States.	<b>52A.</b> All alternatives evaluated in the EIS provide moorage for 14 transient boaters, a category that includes day use.
В	I have lived in Bellevue for 35 years and I have had a boat the whole time I have lived here. The problems anticipated by the people living along the lake are un-founded. There are ways to control the elements the waterfront owners fear. First, no boats should be allowed in the bay with un-muffled exhaust ports above the water line. There are not many boats like this any more and they are very expensive to operate. When one comes along, it does tend to	<b>52B.</b> Comment noted.
C	disturb the experience for everyone. Secondly, water access should be limited to day use. This would severely curtail any party element that uses the cloak of darkness to ramp up noise. Third, you can bring down the no wake limit further out in the bay so you do not have boaters racing into the bay for quick stops and fast exits. As for property values, I have been a professional Realtor the whole time I have lived in Bellevue. If you can find a place where the development of public facilities has brought down property values, I would like to know about it for a case study. It just does not happen. For any one property owner that will find people offensive, you can find two owners that think being exposed to people makes a more fulfilled life.	<b>52C.</b> Comment noted.
D	I was personally very excited when I became aware of the plans for a waterfront park. If you are going to live in one of the best places in the world, it would be nice to be able to share it from a perspective of the water which is always a hot sell for any city. Bellevue has been out of the loop.  The reduction of boat slips seems odd to me, but if space is tight and this must be done to extend the use reach of more people and the enjoyment of a wider range of people, I would endorse it.	<b>52D.</b> Accommodation of a wider range of interests and activities is one of the reasons for the reduction of permanent moorage slips in the action alternatives. Another is to provide access to the water through a variety of means, including access for non-boat owners. Still another is to create the
	Thank you, Frank Klein	opportunity to restore the shoreline to a more natural condition by removing much of the hardened shoreline edge.

	nent (Letter Number, Comment Source) r #53, Burkhalter	City's Response to Comment
	From: Mike Burkhalter [mburk@myworldlink.com] Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 1:15 PM To: Paine, Michael Subject: Waterfront Park Plans	
Plea	se consider these points as you implement a park design:	
	1. Develop a peaceful, natural and relaxed Park	<b>53A.</b> Comments noted.
	2. Provide only limited parking in the NW portion of the park	
	3. No new structures in the Park	
A	4. No commercial uses in the Park, period.	
	<ol> <li>Maintain Noise Protection from Lake Washington Blvd traffic The trees along Lake Washington Blvd reduce traffic noise.</li> </ol>	
	6. Maintain a working Marina with adequate parking—Retain at least Piers 1 & 2	
В	7. Transient Moorage - Limit transient moorage to the 14 slips required by existing agreements and put this moorage NW of the existing piers to keep	<b>53B.</b> The transient moorage cannot be placed northwest of the existing piers because of State funding source requirements that require the transient
C	transient marine boat activity in the outer portion of the bay.  8. Retain/improve emergency access to serve residents and park-goers	moorage to be located at the properties which the State funds helped purchase (essentially, between 99th Avenue NE and 100th Avenue SE).
	9. Limit hard surfaces along the lake—Use natural materials on a pedestrian walkway to enhance the natural feeling of the park. The circular walkway at the downtown park is an excellent example of such a walkway.	<b>53C.</b> Comments noted. Emergency access will be retained as part of project-design.
D	10. Speed Limits in the Bay - Limit speeds to no-wake inside Pickle Point for the safety of swimmers and youth sailing at the Yacht Club and minimization of erosion of softened waterfront edges.	<b>53D.</b> Comment noted.

	t (Letter Number, Comment Source) 4, Marshall	City's	Response to Comment
	Letter #54  Michael Paine City of Bellevue Department of Development Services P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-9012	0 109 <sup>th</sup> Ave. SE evue, WA 98004 20, 2009	
	Subject: Comments on Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan DE  Dear Mr. Paine:  Congratulations to you and all others involved in preparing this DEIS. and addressed most of the possible impacts. My comments mainly su	It's very thorough	
A	clarifications, and further detailing of a few discussions that were too  First of all, since the Notice of Availability says the comments can add alternatives as well as adequacy of the document, Alternative 1 descrit would consider a preferred alternative. Naturally there are some aspec as defined at this programmatic phase that could be improved as the part of actual project features. Examples could include location of the tran possible gradual reduction of space allocated to long-term moorage.	eneral.  Sess merits of the ess most of what I s of the alternative k goes into design	omment noted.
В	Description of Alternatives  This first section is very useful for understanding the unique compone alternative—numbers of long term moorage slips, size of buildings on restored shoreline, etc. This helps in remembering those concepts and the later discussion of impacts. But one question subsequently bother of the report: how was the minimum long-term boat moorage requirem at least 25-35 slips in either alternative? Is it explained somewhere in documents, that the City Council or Steering Committee required such be retained? Is the rental revenue considered essential for ongoing par didn't notice anything explicitly stating those numbers in the various p cited in the DEIS. If there is such a specification, maybe the Final EIS that up front, so the stated numbers of slips don't appear to be negotial the other elements described in the alternatives.	the site, length of project elements in a me through most ent established, for ne of the related a minimum must maintenance? I anning guidelines should mention  548. If continuous shoreli service require for the for the	the proposal balances the amount of long-term moorage and its desire to ue providing this service with other project goals such as public access, ine restoration, and transient moorage. Providing a broader range of es necessitates a reduction in long-term moorage slips. There is no ement to maintain a certain minimum number of slips (e.g., 25), except a 14 transient moorage slips required as a condition of funding.
C T	Aside from the number of long-term moorage slips, most of the graphi boats similar to those now moored at Pier 1. Was that intentional? I s the communications sent to the committee, that a prominent firm had l corporate yacht there, and used it often for entertaining clients who enconvenience to downtown Bellevue. While this may be a fine deal for do their interests compare to those of all the Bellevue citizens whose that have paid for acquisition and development of this space? Will they be	w elsewhere in ng moored its design yed the marina's such users, how west over the years are design waiting	he specific number of long-term slips will be finalized at project-level . Slip sizes vary to provide an opportunity to moor a variety of boat sizes ty has always provided moorage on a first-come/first-served basis. A g list is maintained. Policies will be developed to implement the ion in long-term slips.

## **Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)**

Letter #54

C, cont

see these large craft moored between them as pedestrians and the lake they have presumably come to see? The assumptions about vessel sizes as well as pier locations and total minimum numbers of long-term moorage slips should be very clear in the project description.



Even though this is not a project-specific DEIS, it would be helpful to illustrate the kinds of programs that might be accommodated in the smaller community building and environmental education center of Alternative 1, compared to those in the larger spaces proposed for Alternative 2. Even though these might be just illustrative, they would help readers to understand the tradeoffs with open space uses, beyond just providing more year-round uses.



The more detailed summary of alternative features in Table 1.4-1 was very good. It was a little hard to grasp (Surface Water and Water Quality) how Alt. # 1 could have less area covered by overwater structures than Alt. # 2 if it had substantially more moorage slips. The difference must be due to the latter alternative's floating boardwalk. If so, that should be mentioned in the summary.

#### Park and Recreation Impacts

Although the text on pages 3-130 and 3-131 makes it clear that Alternative 2 would allow "...slightly more intensely programmed use than Alternative 1..." the recreational effect of certain important features is left perhaps too much to the reader's imagination. A specific example is the new public pier with a viewing platform and a floating boardwalk. While this might seem like a relatively innocuous supplement to a shoreline pathway in the same area of the park, I could not readily find its possible negative effects mentioned in the impact discussions. To me, such an offshore walkway seems unnecessary, if the park and moorage are designed to allow a pedestrian to get a good view of Meydenbauer Bay from the actual shoreline. So its negative effects might include:

- · Redundancy with shoreline pathway
- · Creation of a visual obstacle to pedestrians on the shoreline pathway
- Unnecessary extra cost of construction and maintenance
- · Possible hazard for non-swimmers falling off the boardwalk adjacent to deep water
- Potential additional shaded area where predatory fish would threaten migrating juvenile salmon

The discussion of the recreational impacts of this curious boardwalk feature could draw on experience with similar structures. The King County park at Juanita Bay, north of Kirkland, has or once had a structure like that out in Lake Washington. I remember it as an unnecessary thing, not visually interesting and not enhancing the swimming recreation that it was supposed to support. I believe Seattle has or had some over-water structure like that at the former Aqua Theater area of Green Lake. There was a similar structure paralleling the shore at the Navy's swimming beach at Sand Point Naval Station before the City of Seattle acquired it. Maybe there are examples of floating boardwalks in some

### City's Response to Comment

**54D.** Activities that might be programmed in on-site buildings include summer day camp programs for youth, instruction for boating projects to be carried out at the Whaling Building, other art and recreation programs, community group meetings, and other similar activities. As with all park community buildings, private use can be accommodated if space is available and the purpose and use are consistent with park rules and policies.

**54E.** Comment noted. Overwater coverage reflects all such structures, including moorage, pedestrian access piers, and boardwalks.

**54F.** Comment noted. Benefits of the floating boardwalk include widening the narrowest part of the park, carrying some of the pedestrian traffic farther from adjacent private condominiums, providing space for required transient boating, allowing a contiguous stretch of shoreline to be restored to a more natural condition and providing an over water experience for the non-boating public.



F

Commen	t (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
å	Letter #54	
	other parks that have had more positive effects. If so, they would be useful to know about in assessing this component of Alternative 2.	
	Visual Quality Impacts	
G	This section of the DEIS is very well done. The photo simulations of views to the Bay from 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave. SE and Main Street clearly (to me, anyway) illustrate why 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE should be closed to vehicle access in that area. The water feature and substantial plaza space clearly suggest continuity with the downtown park. The very clear visual images of how the alternatives differ in these respects should be more thoroughly discussed in the land use and maybe transportation impact narratives.	<b>54G.</b> Comment noted.
H	One additional viewpoint location should be used to illustrate the visual differences of the Alternatives. The viewpoint should be from the shoreline path. This would dramatize the effects of moorage locations and the floating boardwalk features in a way that the other two viewpoints cannot. It would show how typical visitors would see these features from within the space, rather than just from across the bay or above it at the Main Street elevation.	<b>54H.</b> Comment noted.
	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DEI'S. I will be interested in the Steering Committee's further deliberations on park plan alternatives later this month.	
8 16	Sincerely,	
×	Peter S. Marshall (425) 453-9287	
	(123) 133-7267	

	t (Letter Number, Comment Source)  5, O'Hara (Public Hearing Transcript)	City's Response to Comment
, , ,	6 Letter #55 I'm D.R. O'Hara with Sunset Community	<b>55A.</b> Comment noted.
	7 Association, Bellevue, Washington. Spoke a number of times	
	8 on the alternatives. The key issue here is that the two	
	9 alternatives that are being presented in this draft do not	
	10 reflect the consensus of the community owners that sit	
	11 behind me. We have articulated that on a number of	
A	12 occasions, and it is as if we are not even being heard. So	
12	13 I want to make sure we go on the record on the record.	
Ş	14 I've got a note here from Robin Cole that	
· .	15 says the alternatives now being evaluated are essentially	
	16 the same as those developed in 2008. And you heard from all	
	17 of us then, and you're hearing tonight that this draft is	
	18 intended to inform the community's recommendation from an	
	19 environmental standpoint. When the committee reconvenes	
	20 after this draft is issued, they'll work toward a consensus	
	21 scenario or preferred alternative, so there's still	
	22 opportunity to change the scenarios to reflect what we've	
	23 been telling you. We own this. We're expecting you to	
	24 reflect our input.	
	25 This final environmental impact statement	
A 1	1 will address the alternatives developed through that	
cont	2 discussion and recommendation. When the committee reaches a	
_	3 consensus, a graphic representation will be presented. So	
2.	4 I'm going to hold Ms. Cole to that and the committee as	
1	5 well.	
1	6 And I would like to reference previous	
	7 comments, but they're extensive and lengthy and passionate.	
	8 Please listen to the city owners. They are here tonight.	
1	9 Thank you.	

Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Letter #56, O'Hara (Comment Form, E-mail)	
Return (or Postmark) by July 20, 2009  CONTACT INFORMATION  NAME:  TRO Hara  ADDRESS:  To Box 984 Mercen Island WA 9804  E-MAIL:  L. r. o'hara Choeing, com  Please add my name to your project mailing list. V YES NO  COMMENTS: Please provide comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Fenvironmental Impact Statement.  Comments attached to be included as Part of the TEIS record, The TE alternative "Baseline" is corrently to anly acceptable option. Alternative and I do not reflect the collective in put provided by my self and my fellow city owners and stakeholders the past several years. You MUST me provide a reasonable alternative 3 the does. We expect nothing less.	56A. Comment noted. The Steering Committee received substantial public input, and considered that input along with the Steering Committee charge and the planning principles approved by Council, in identifying a Preferred Alternative which is evaluated in this Final EIS. The two action alternatives (Alternatives 1 and 2, including 1A and 2A) and the No-Action Alternative evaluated in the Draft EIS reflect a wide range of choices that have been evaluated and configured by the Steering Committee into a Preferred Alternative that in their collective judgment best meets the charge and planning principles.

#### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #56 O'Hara, DR From: Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2009 3:09 PM 'RCole@bellevuewa.gov' To: MBergstrom@bellevuewa.gov; GKost@bellevuewa.gov Cc: Subject: RE: Mevdenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan Comments Importance: High Robin Thank you for responding and sharing the input with our Steering Committee membership. I agree, the written form does have its benefits, especially to clearly and accurately reflect the articulated stakeholder comments. The committee charge you referenced below includes the statement, "...will involve the development of draft alternatives for both the Park Master Plan and the neighboring upland area, evaluating those alternatives, and ultimately selecting final land use and park master plan alternatives and identifying actions to implement the vision. The project will culminate with final reports summarizing the recommendations of the committee on both the land use and park master plan project components." (emphasis added) As evidenced by overwhelming city owner responses to date, the marina and water use vision continue to be a sensitive subject for a majority of stakeholders, including those whose primary concern pertain to the land use, parking, and traffic **56B.** Comment noted. These comments were submitted earlier and were mitigation. Further, based on the committee's charge, the marina and related aquatic usage is out of scope and its continued discussion and reflection within the contractors presentation materials is a material overstep. Its continued inclusion within considered in the Draft EIS, to the extent applicable. project scenario drafts remain a cause for alarm and basis for proactive stakeholder action and possible intervention - a glimpse of which have been demonstrated during the previous three public sessions and the recent "nature" walk. The message has yet to bear fruit by being adequately addressed by the committee, city staff, and contractor consultants. The revenue figures you shared are incomplete and summary level. As currently presented, they fall short of the test of reasonableness and fully inadequate to support a detailed accounting audit. We can not even determined where the net revenue is currently being diverted and consumed. Further, since marina acquisition, unexplained and suspicious slip vacancies continue and have actually increased. Obviously this situation artificially skews the financial reports. I'm confident the answers can be found within the financial accounting details, which should be readily available from city employees and staff who are vested with fiscal oversight responsibility and accountability. If this information already exists, please clarify where it can be obtained. An independent audit, conducted in the open, can easily put to bed an appearance of impropriety, mismanagement, and secretiveness on the part of city staff, employees, committee members, consultants, A more realistic cost analysis would include repairs and upgrades that should permit full occupancy, plus the retirement of the debt. For the moment, it is clear to most stakeholders that the marina DOES represent a valuable revenue stream that will increase substantially once renovations and improvements, along with debt retirement is achieved. The use of this increased marina-generated revenue is reasonably expected to provide a surplus that can benefit the desired land use component of the park master plan - a benefit to all city owners. Respectfully awaiting your reply,

First of all, a copy of your email has been forwarded to the Steering Committee members, as is our practice with all written comments we receive. The meeting summary really is just a summary and not intended to capture comments verbatim.

Steering Committee members represent a variety of Bellevue neighborhoods and their expertise varies widely. They have worked hard to be thorough and responsible in their deliberations and in pursuing their assignment in a manner consistent with the Planning Principles and Steering Committee charge approved by the City Council in March of 2007. Among other guidance, the Council charged the Committee to "combine their talents to represent the broad interests of the community at large, recognizing that the park will be a community-wide asset." The Planning Principles and Steering Committee charge, Project Managers' contact information and the process diagram (schedule) are on the website at <a href="http://www.bellevuewa.gov/meydenbauer\_project\_intro.htm">http://www.bellevuewa.gov/meydenbauer\_project\_intro.htm</a>.

The marina remains a key element in all the alternatives, and long term moorage is included in all the alternatives. The six private docks (now City-owned) you asked about, are left in place in order to maximize the potential for future overwater coverage. Once a plan is in place and permits are applied for, the decision can be made regarding their disposition. At the March meeting I indicated that 2008 annual revenue was projected at \$322,000. In addition to misinterpreting some of the revenue information, I provided a 2008 projection rather than actual, which will not be available for several months. However, actual figures for 2007 are available, and the net revenue from 2007, after debt service and including all three piers was \$96,694. This is a more realistic indication of the revenue the marina provides. The marina revenue is used to redeem the general obligation bonds sold for acquisition of the Meydenbauer Bay Marina and for maintenance and operation of the Belyeuve Marina at Meydenbauer Bay.

The alternatives now being evaluated in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) are essentially the same as those developed in 2008, because the DEIS is intended to inform the Committee's recommendation from an environmental standpoint. When the Committee reconvenes after the DEIS is issued, they will work toward a "consensus scenario", or a preferred alternative. The final environmental impact statement (FEIS) will address the alternative developed through their discussion and recommendation. When the Committee reaches consensus a graphic representation will be prepared.

If you have further questions, feel free to contact me. Again, thank you for your comments; they are part of the project record.

Robin Cole 425-452-6195 Rcole@bellevuewa.gov

Letter #56

Robin.

Importance: High

First of all, thank you for the hard work and dedication to the Meydenbauer Bay Park project. It appears we share much passion for the project scope. As a program manager, with over thirty years experience participating in or managing large projects, I know a lot of dedicated effort can go unnoticed. Time is precious during the meetings, so I often fail to voice or demonstrate this, which may give a false impression to some. I do appreciate the process and associated efforts.

I have researched and completed a review of all material you have currently made available on the subject. As evidenced during last week's steering committee meeting (March 19), many city-owner stakeholders continue to exhibit frustration with the process results. Their vital input remains absent from the EDAW alternative scenarios. It appears to many, that the three alternative scenarios presented in 2003 are set, with only minimal change possible. Some city owners characterize comments of committee members, staff, and consultants to be biased, patronizing, and demeaning, if not outride rude and condescending. I continue to believe we're all striving to work together toward a common goal and critical thinking and input is vital to the process. I, and many others also believe the consensus scenario remains conspicuously absent in the draft alternative scenarios presented on March 19, 2009.

As I reviewed the minutes from prior meetings I have attended and presented, I find our scribes fail to adequately capture and reflect verbal statements at times. For this, and in support of improving team communication with our volunteers, paid staff, and consultants, I offer this written version of my comments, transcribed from my notes, for inclusion in the draft minutes for the Meydenbauer Bay Project Regular Meeting, conducted March 19, 2009:

- The steering committee was chartered April 2007. Two years is far too long for the simple use plan covering a bay park
  conjoined with a land park.
- Steering committee members have aptly voiced and demonstrated their biases.
  - It appears many committee members are playing fast and loose with land owned by this audience of city owners.
  - The continued lack of city owner input reflected within the prior and current EDAW concepts, alternatives, and scenarios, is

2

# City's Response to Comment

Chapter 4 – Comments and Responses on the Draft EIS

#### **City's Response to Comment** Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) viewed as unresponsive and irresponsible. As evidence by the frustrated audience of city owners, patience is running out. . Where are the Requirements Document, Groundrules & Assumptions, Program Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), Responsibility Assignment Matrix (RAM), Cost & Schedules? . These are basic and essential elements for any project of this scope. These are NOT design elements, rather they are dynamic project anchors around which detail design phases pivot and evolve. The steering committee has a requirement and obligation to city owners to incorporate their collective input into the alternative scenarios, or direct the consultants (i.e., EDAW) to do so ASAP! . If the steering committee, paid staff, or consultants expect the city owners to provide these, it should now be quite evident we are proactively able and willing to respond. . Be realistic regarding the marina component of the bay park. . The marina must remain a key element in the "Bay Park" complement to the "Land Park" project component. . The marina is vital source of revenue that should be maintained and improved - not diminished or discarded to satisfy a select and possibly ignorant or biased few . Estimates of annual net revenue approaching \$1m indicate an opportunity to retain or increase this vital asset - not destroy it. . Any loss of revenue would be shouldered by city owners - not the messengers, although the messengers will be held accountable. Where is this revenue being spent today? The committee cannot shirk responsibility to marina residents, who are also residents and city owners if only by virtue of their tenant status. · Don't kill the "golden goose"! It isn't broke, so don't fix it! The removal of the six private docks without recouping the footage in the proposed plan is fiscally and environmentally irresponsible . A number of creative uses that combine the bay park and land park components have been proposed by city owners. · No conceptual renderings have been developed by committee members, paid staff, or consultants If the steering committee, paid staff, or consultants expect the city owners to provide these, it should now be quite evident we are proactively able and willing to respond. Footage removed can be exchanged and converted to the closed-loop bay park boardwalk, transient moorage, or expanded renovation of Pier 3. · This configuration effectively and dramatically separates swimmers from boaters. · Throwing away prior capital investment is irresponsible and indefensible. The swim area is neat the stream because this was and remains the appropriate placement for it. . The stream affords a shallower, more natural beach environment, in large part due to the runoff delta. . Proposals to throw away this capital investment and relocated the beach farther west, toward the narrow end of the bay, is based on ignorance or personal agenda. · It places swimmers closer to boaters, and especially those with propellers. It would require an artificial beach be created and maintained. It's an environmental quagmire. It isn't broke, so don't fix it! Be fiscally responsible. . Buy-in from the city counsel is only one of many gates ahead. You must also receive city owner buy-in! Serious challenges await that will ensure committee members, paid staff, and consultants are held accountable for continued unresponsive and irresponsible behavior. • ~\$1.2m has been spent on this project to date, and the EIS (ecd May09-Jun09) costs another \$300k, then ~\$1.5m has been spent of city owner funds. Why go forward with the two unacceptable alternative scenarios? . What's behind this urgency? We've already spent two years, and still don't have viable alternative scenarios . The plan submittal must represent a consensus or majority buy-in of city owners while a value that reflects the time, money, and labor expended Collectively, we must ensure the use plan for the bay park and conjoined land park is reasonable, palatable, and . If we fail, the package will be tossed in a drawer somewhere, never to be seen again. City owners are indicating their collective time may yield better results if spent with the city council or media. Current alternative scenarios do not even reflect city council input. · Formation of a Citizen's Action or Advisory Group may amplify and compel inclusion of city owner concerns and input. · Wasn't this the intended purpose of the steering committee? The current status of this project is that of a fire hydrant. Dogs love them, but also bite! The steering committee, staff, and consultants have heard and received this input on multiple occasions from many stakeholders. It's now imperative they proactively and responsibly reflect that input in the draft scenarios - before submitting anything to the EIS phase! Respectfully submitted, Letter #56

Table 4-3. Comments on the Draft EIS and the City's Responses (Letter #3).

	e 4-3. Comments on the Draft EIS and the City's Responses (Letter #3 nent (Letter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Lette	r #3, Meydenbauer Bay Neighborhood Association	
	Letter #3 Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association	
	July 20, 2009	
	Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager Development Services Department City of Bellevue P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-9012	
The state of the s	Subject: Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association Comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement	
	Dear Mr. Paine:	
	This letter constitutes the comments on the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) by the Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association (MBNA). The MBNA is a non-profit organization founded in the Spring of 2007 whose Mission is to represent the Meydenbauer Bay Community which is made up of over 1300 families, 8 condominium associations, and the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club. A copy of MBNA's Mission Statement is attached as Appendix 1. MBNA has made it clear that MBNA supports a Park, but is concerned that specific components being considered create too much intensity for the site. Meydenbauer Bay is a small, secluded Bay that will be acutely impacted by the noisy congestion and visual impacts created by a major park, rather than the pedestrian friendly park originally envisioned by the City Council Planning Principles.	3A. Comment noted.
e men elektroniste men elektroniste elektron	Background  MBNA has been actively involved with the Park planning process since the beginning. The Draft EIS was prepared in part because of MBNA's efforts to require more comprehensive study of the project's impacts. MBNA's concerns were set forth in the letter dated October 15, 2008 addressed to Mayor Grant Degginger with the subject line "Scope of Environmental Impact Statement - Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan." A copy of that letter is included in Appendix A to the Draft EIS. That letter included dozens of issues that needed to be addressed in the Draft EIS.	
B	MBNA submitted a second letter dated November 12, 2008, also addressed to Mayor Degginger, with the subject line "Additional Comments to Letter Submitted October 15, 2008 by MBNA Regarding the Scope of Environmental Impact Statement - Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use	<b>3B.</b> Comment noted. The City received the second letter from MBNA dated November 12, 2008, and considered it along with other scoping letters. A copy was inadvertently omitted from the Draft EIS.



Plan." This November 12th letter is not included in the Draft EIS Appendix A, and is attached hereto as Appendix 2. The Additional Comments letter raised another two dozen issues that needed to be addressed in the Draft EIS.

The Draft EIS in Appendix A includes a different letter submitted by MBNA addressed to The City of Bellevue dated November 12, 2008, with the subject line "The City of Bellevue's Waterfront Park - A Park for the 21st Century." The purpose of that letter was for MBNA to present an alternative Park Plan.

In addition to those letters submitted during the scoping process, MBNA has been attending the Steering Committee meetings and making its concerns known. In particular, MBNA prepared a detailed analysis of concerns entitled Steering Committee Walkabout dated March 14, 2009: Points of Impact. A copy of the Walkabout document is attached as Appendix 3. MBNA also provided oral comments on the Draft EIS at the public hearing held June 23, 2009. Then at the



Steering Committee meeting on June 30, 2009, MBNA submitted a document entitled Preliminary Review of Park Alternatives and Options (Appendix 4). Finally, with this comment letter, MBNA is submitting technical comments by planning consultants R.W. Thorpe &

Associates, Inc. (Appendix 5) and traffic consultant Robert Bernstein, P.E. (Appendix 6).

MBNA requests that the Final EIS Response to Comments address the comments in this letter as well as the comments by MBNA made in the oral comments at the public hearing and in the attached documents which are hereby incorporated by reference. With that background, the following are MBNA's separate written comments on the Draft EIS:

1. The Draft EIS failed to respond to the detailed issues and questions set forth in our letter of October 15, 2008 and supplemental letter of November 12, 2008.

MBNA submitted two letters specifically related to scoping for the Draft EIS dated October 15 and November 12, 2008. These letters raised dozens of issues mostly in form of questions that MBNA requested to be addressed in the Draft EIS. MBNA was informed by City Staff that each of these concerns was to be dealt with in the Draft EIS.

The Draft EIS fails to address a substantial number of these concerns. The Additional Comments letter submitted in the scoping process dated November 12, 2008 is not even included as part of the Draft EIS. Thus, it appears that the EIS Consultants were not even provided all the information that MBNA provided in the scoping process.

A cursory review of MBNA's scoping letters demonstrates that the Draft EIS failed to address numerous issues or barely touched on many of concerns raised by MBNA. The Final EIS must fully consider all those issues.

MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009

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### City's Response to Comment

- **3C.** The November 12, 2008, letter from MBNA titled "The City of Bellevue's Waterfront Park—A Park for the 21st Century" was submitted during the scoping period (October 10, 2008 –November 12, 2008) and was considered as a scoping comment.
- **3D.** MBNA's concerns regarding the walkabout also were included in MBNA's June 23, 2009 Comment Letter, as noted in response to Comment Letter 2.
- **3E.** MBNA's oral comments at the Draft EIS public hearing were submitted in writing at the hearing, along with attachments; see responses to Comment Letter 2.
- **3F.** Comment noted. See response below to Attachment 4.
- **3G.** Comment letters from R. W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. and Robert Bernstein P.E. were submitted separately by each consultant. Responses to these letters are provided as responses to Comment Letters 12, 13, and 14.
- **3H.** Comment noted.
- 31. The purpose of scoping is to help focus the EIS on significant environmental issues and identify alternatives. Although the November 12, 2008, scoping letter was inadvertently omitted from the Draft EIS appendix, all scoping comments received were forwarded to EDAW, the lead consultant for the Draft EIS, and they have confirmed receipt and consideration of the comments. The Draft EIS addresses SEPA issues at a programmatic level. Much of the October 15, 2008, and November 12, 2008, requested analysis is included in the Draft EIS; some of the other analyses will be conducted later at the project-specific level, as applicable.

Letter #3

The Draft EIS fails to make comparisons to the existing conditions and instead compares the new alternatives to a No Action Alternative that involves major changes. The result is a distorted analysis of impacts.

The No Action Alternative assumes major changes to the Park when compared with the Existing Park. Pages 2-3 to 2-4. Put another way, the No Action Alternative is **not** a no action plan, but rather assumes major actions that are not now programmed to occur.

The City has no Park Plan beyond the existing park accessed off 98<sup>th</sup> Place NE, and instead the City owns a number of parcels that could be included in a new Park. The purpose of this planning process is to prepare such a Park Plan for the new Meydenbauer Bay Park. Yet, the Draft EIS assumes as part of the No Action Alternative that major new park components will be constructed as listed on page 2-4 under the bullet "Park parcels." The so-called No Action Alternative includes: constructing 5.5 acres of new park improvements, installing 70 new parking spaces, constructing a new shoreline pathway, providing new public access, and removing the existing residences and piers. The land use portion of the No Action Alternative assumes major redevelopment of upland parcels with substantial additional commercial and retail square footage, and dozens or hundreds of new residential units.

As a result, the Draft EIS creates a false No Action Alternative that does not represent the existing conditions, or does not represent existing conditions plus authorized new developments. Since there is no Park Plan for the new parcels, all new park improvements go beyond the No Action threshold and constitute a new alternative. A proper No Action Alternative should be based on the existing park conditions, and should not be based on a major new Park Plan that has not been approved or studied. Similarly, a proper No Action Alternative should be based on the existing land uses and should not be based on massive new redevelopment of existing parcels that City Staff admits will not occur under the existing zoning.

The difference is very important. The Draft EIS creates the No Action Alternative as the baseline of impacts for comparison to impacts caused by Alternatives 1 and 2. The No Action Alternative in the Draft EIS sets a much higher baseline of impacts than should have been established and that makes all the comparisons for Alternatives 1 and 2 fundamentally in error.

The Draft EIS fails to address the 12 Planning Principles established by the City Council.

The Draft EIS begins at page 1-2 with the listing of the 12 Planning Principles for the Park Plan formally adopted by the City Council. These Planning Principles are clear and unambiguous. Yet, throughout the Draft EIS, the Planning Principles are ignored and the Draft EIS fails to address the inconsistencies between the Alternatives and these clear Planning Principles.

The letter by planning consultants R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. attached as Appendix 5,

MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009

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### City's Response to Comment

**3J.** SEPA requires the evaluation of the No-Action Alternative, which provides a benchmark from which the other alternatives can be compared.

The No-Action Alternative is typically defined as what would most likely happen if the proposal did not occur. The No-Action Alternative in the Draft EIS reflects the most likely development under existing zoning in the project study area. The No-Action Alternative also reflects conditions required by various park funding sources, such as decreasing impervious surface, providing waterfront access, and including transient moorage. This most likely future without the proposal is not the same as existing conditions.

**3K.** Comment noted. The planning principles were approved by Council to help guide the Steering Committee in its work. They are qualitative and subjective. As such, they are subject to differing interpretations of their intent, relative importance, and implementation. The Steering Committee spent substantial time discussing the planning principles and their charge. They considered options for balancing various principles and developed a Preferred Alternative that, in their collective judgment, is consistent with the principles. The City Council will ultimately determine consistency with the planning principles.

Letter #3

provides a comprehensive analysis of the inconsistencies between the Alternatives and the Planning Principles, and those comments are incorporated herein by reference.

For example, the Draft EIS starts off on page 1-1 stating that the concept is to provide "unique recreation, retail, and tourism opportunities." Yet, there is nothing in the 12 Planning Principles that can remotely support the creation of retail and tourism opportunities at the Park. To the contrary, Planning Principle #3 only goes so far as to suggest that the Park should "serve the broader community" and does not mention serving tourists presumably from outside Bellevue. See also #1 listing a "community-wide public asset." The Planning Principles discussion of activities at #2 lists "active recreation such as swimming and sailing to passive enjoyment of intimate, green, natural areas." Retail uses in the Park are completely inconsistent with these listed and adopted activities. Similarly, under #6 Economic Vitality, the City Council Planning Principle lists, "support the nearby business community," which is inconsistent with new retail uses in competition with those existing businesses. This theme of ignoring the Planning Principles is carried on throughout the Draft EIS.

The Draft EIS describes the City Council adopted Planning Principles as part of the fundamental basis for the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS should have carefully analyzed all inconsistencies between the Alternatives and the Planning Principles. The Draft EIS failed to do so, and the result is an inherently defective Draft EIS that utterly fails in a primary aspect of its mission.

4. The Steering Committee process is fundamentally flawed because the Committee is making decisions prior to completion of the Final EIS, and because the Committee should have at least waited to review comments submitted by interested persons and organizations such as MBNA.

The Draft EIS was issued by the City on June 4, 2009. The Draft EIS is more than just a Draft EIS in that the document also provides for the first time detailed information on the proposed Park Plan Alternatives. This situation is different than an application submitted by a private entity in which months go by prior to issuance of the Draft EIS. The combined nature of this Draft EIS makes the commenting period far too short to effectively review the entirely of the alternatives and analysis, and to engage professional consultants to fairly undertake a comprehensive review. In particular, the State regulations provide that the public hearing for accepting comments can be up to 50 days after issuance of the Draft EIS, and yet the City selected the incredibly short time period of 19 days from issuance of the Draft EIS to the public hearing—a time period that is insufficient to fairly allowed time to disseminate the Draft EIS to interested persons, read the hundreds of pages long document, and form rational comments. Similarly, the 45-day time period for written comments was constricted since the City issued the Draft EIS without notice, rather than providing courtesy notice to the public that the Draft EIS

MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009

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**City's Response to Comment** 

**3L.** See Comment Letter 2, Responses 2A. and 2B. Formal Notice of the Draft EIS availability was provided per SEPA rules. Between April 2007 and August 2009, the Steering Committee held 20 Steering Committee meetings, attended six public workshops, attended the Draft EIS public hearing, and maintained notebooks of every public comment regarding the project submitted during that time frame, including all Draft EIS comments.



cont

Letter #3

would be issued in a few weeks, and again without any notice of the details of the proposed alternatives.



Nevertheless, with substantial effort and speed, MBNA reviewed the Draft EIS including the newly detailed alternatives, and put together the Preliminary Review of Alternatives and Options (Appendix 4) and presented this Preliminary Review to the Steering Committee at its June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Steering Committee was scheduled for two additional meetings after the written comment period ended for the Draft EIS on July 20, 2009. Yet, despite having just received the input of MBNA—the only association representing the entire directly affected community, the Steering Committee was directed by the City consultants to start making decisions without any discussion of MBNA's Preliminary Review document, and the Committee did so. Of course, this meant that the Steering Committee was making decisions without even waiting for the July 20, 2009, conclusion of the formal written comment period on the Draft EIS (and thus on the newly detailed alternatives), let alone waiting for completion of the Final EIS with the required Response to Comments that would detail the comments and provide a formal response for consideration by the Committee.

It should be noted that the City Staff handling of the Steering Committee has further exacerbated the fairness of the process. The public has generally been allowed only "public comment time" to make its concerns known to the whole Steering Committee, with no formal public hearing held. The general public has thus not been notified that that a hearing is being held by the Steering Committee to accept the public's input, or that the Steering Committee is otherwise interested in accepting public input. Despite the restriction of the process, members of the public made numerous comments, but the City consultant and so-called facilitator cut-off the public input on more than one occasion for arbitrary reasons.

For all these reasons, the Steering Committee decision-making is tainted because it was done prematurely without full and fair consideration of public input on the alternatives and Draft EIS. In addition, the Steering Committee actions fail to property consider the City Council Planning Principles and the City Council Charge to the Steering Committee (Appendix 7).

The Draft EIS fails to adequately analyze adverse environmental and shoreline impacts.



MBNA provides the full technical comments by planning consultants R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. incorporated by reference in Appendix 5. These comments detail the inadequacy of the Draft EIS on a number of subjects, in particular land use, shorelines, visual, and noise.

MBNA wants to highlight the point that the Park Planning process should not proceed prior to completion of the Shoreline Master Plan (SMP) process. The SMP is the mandated planning

MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009

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**City's Response to Comment** 

**3M.** Robert Thorpe also submitted this comment letter and it is included and responded to as Comment Letter 14.

### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) City's Response to Comment document and State regulation for all shoreline development. The SMP is designed to supercede all other planning efforts, and yet, the Park Planning process is proceeding before the SMP process is completed. The Draft EIS inadequately addresses this inconsistency and also fails to address the inconsistencies with the existing SMP that City Staff states is woefully outdated and completely inadequate for current planning purposes (SMP Open House). Furthermore, the Draft EIS fails to adequately address the major inconsistencies with the City's adopted critical area ordinance (CAO) as applied to shorelines. The Draft EIS treatment of the CAO demonstrates the utter absurdity of the CAO as applied to shorelines. The CAO prohibits all development with in a 25-foot buffer area with an additional 25-foot building cont setback from the buffer (the buffer is extended to 50 feet for vacant parcels which may apply to the redevelopment here with torn down buildings). The proposed Alternatives and Draft EIS completely ignore the point that development within 25 feet is supposed to be prohibited by the CAO except in certain circumstances. The Draft EIS solution to the problem is to assume that the City will be able to obtain a Critical Area Permit for the development even though the Draft EIS does not look at alternatives to the buffer impacts or any other of the typical standards considered in such a permit review. The CAO is absurd on its face because it conflicts with several major principles of the Shoreline Management Act, in particular the goal to continue private shoreline access and promote public access. For this reason and others, the State Supreme Court held that it is illegal to apply the CAO to the shoreline without a comprehensive SMP update process—the precise approach taken by Bellevue. The CAO seeks to prohibit shoreline improvements, including access even on existing sites that have no native shoreline where any development would create no new impact. That is true for the Park since, for example, the paved area by the piers would be converted to a walkway with green space. But according to the CAO, a new walkway and all other new improvements within the 25-foot buffer are generally disallowed. Thus, the Draft EIS must assume that the City will grant special critical area permits for this development even though the City would never even think of telling a private owner in advance that the permit will be issued. The City should follow the proper process and finish the SMP update first before completing the Park Planning process. At a minimum, the Draft EIS must address the impacts on the shorelines as defined by the CAO 6. The Draft EIS fails to adequately address noise impacts. **3N.** See response m. above Planning consultants R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. also address the inadequacy of the Draft EIS on the subject of noise impacts. As stated in that letter (Appendix 5), the Draft EIS fails to N provide sufficient quantitative data to back up the largely qualitative analysis. In other words, the Draft EIS is very subjective in nature and does not use adequate real noise impact studies. In addition, the Draft EIS uses general analysis without any consideration of site specific issues, MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009 Page 6 of 9

Letter #3



namely the basic fact that the Bay creates a unique amphitheatre effect that magnifies all noise. Numerous people have commented that conversations from boats or the opposite shore carry clearly all the way across the Bay. Any and all proposed Park components that add to noise levels will have a devastating multiplying effect and thus a severe adverse impact on the community, wildlife, and the environment. The Draft EIS utterly fails to fully and fairly address these unique and massive noise impacts caused by the intense components of the proposed Alternatives.

#### 7. The Draft EIS fails to adequately analyze adverse traffic and parking impacts.

MBNA provides the full technical comments by traffic consultant Robert Bernstein, P.E. incorporated by reference in Appendix 6. These comments detail the inadequacy of the Draft EIS on the subject of traffic impacts. Of particular concern, Mr. Bernstein notes that the Draft EIS fails to contain the "basic technical background information that should be readily available with any DEIS." Furthermore, despite Mr. Bernstein's requests, the City has so far been unable to produce that basic background information including: complete technical report; inputs and worksheets for trip generation, LOS, intersection queuing and delay; and, parking demand calculations. He states that adequate impact analysis cannot be done without this information. It should be noted that the Steering Committee was not provided traffic impact materials either.

MBNA is greatly concerned that the Draft EIS has been completed without this necessary background information. The information is not in the Draft EIS even as an appendix and the information is otherwise not readily available. The inference is that the information does not exist. If the information does not exist, then the Draft EIS is seriously flawed by failing to use the basic common information needed for adequate traffic impact analysis, and misleading the public about doing so. If the information does exist but was not provided to MBNA's traffic consultant, then the City has failed to allow proper comment on the Draft EIS since the Draft EIS would have relied on information that is not included as part of the Draft EIS and is not readily available within the commenting time period. If that is the case, MBNA will add to these comments within a reasonable time after the information is provided.

Another failure is in the area of parking calculations. The City's own parking requirements in the Land Use Code would require many more parking spaces than provided for in the alternatives. In short, the Draft EIS is justifying the shortage of parking spaces without adequate basis instead of describing the code requirements and considering the impacts. Properly considered, the Draft EIS would then need to look at mitigation measures designed to reduce parking demand, such as eliminating or reducing the size of buildings, etc.

Specifically, the Draft EIS provides no detail of how the parking demand is calculated so it is difficult to reconcile the analysis. Rather, the Draft EIS simply relies on vague references such as "based on a combination of factors." Page 3-217. The Land Use Code requirements are: one

MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009

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### **City's Response to Comment**

**30.** Robert Bernstein also submitted this comment letter, and it is included and responded to as Comment Letter 12.



### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #3 space of every two docking slips, assembly room at 10 spaces for every 1000 square feet, and restaurant/café at 16 spaces for every 1000 square feet. The Draft EIS lists 28 spaces for 3 acres currently compared to 8.5 acres proposed so two times the existing spaces or 56 additional spaces for general park usage would seem conservative. Using the Land Use Code requirements and the two times standard results in 146 spaces needed for Alternative 1 and 196 to 202 spaces needed for Alternative 2. Yet, the Draft EIS never discusses the actual Land Use Code requirements and instead simply justifies the proposed number of parking spaces by concluding that demand is 98 spaces for Alternative 1 and 141 spaces for Alternative 2, and then claims an oversupply of 18 and 15 spaces respectively. For Alternative 2, that means 40-50 cars looking for parking spaces on the side streets. Adding 200 cars to Main Street on a Saturday afternoon or weekday after work is clearly a recipe for complete gridlock, will create substantial noise, and is inconsistent with the pedestrian park concept adopted by the City Council. cont Finally, the Draft EIS fails to address pedestrian impacts and proper movement by pedestrians including safety concerns. In short, the analysis of traffic and parking is inadequate and backwards. The Draft EIS fails to provide the necessary background information, fails to address existing requirements, and justifies the existing proposal rather than analyzing the proposal's shortcomings. 8. The Draft EIS fails to adequately address all the concerns noted in the document **3P.** The Walkabout Points of Impact were not submitted as scoping comments entitled Walkabout: Points of Impact or as comments on the Draft EIS. The Points of Impact were, however, MBNA has done a considerable amount of effort to bring the concerns of the neighborhood to submitted to the Steering Committee and the project team and were the City. In particular, MBNA prepared the Walkabout: Points of Impact document and considered during development of the initial Master Plan alternatives. submitted that document to the Steering Committee in March 2009 (Appendix 3). The Draft EIS fails to address numerous specific concerns described in that document and should do so in the 9. The Draft EIS fails to adequately address the areas of special concern raised repeatedly by MBNA, especially closing 100th Avenue and loss of moorage. **3Q.** Comment noted. See specific response below to Appendix 4. MBNA submits for consideration the Preliminary Review of Alternatives and Options as Appendix 4. That document contains three pages of concise comments about the Alternatives as presented in the Draft EIS. Each of the 20 bullet points in that document express comments directed in part at the Draft EIS and the lack of adequate consideration for the impact or options Q presented. The Draft EIS does not fully consider all these options, which have less adverse impacts as explained in the Walkabout document (Appendix 4). For example, the Draft EIS inadequately addresses the adverse impacts of: closing 100th Avenue south of Main Street; constructing large civic and other buildings in the Park; loss of moorage, and, rezoning of upland areas. MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009 Page 8 of 9

## Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) City's Response to Comment Letter #3 **3R.** Comment noted. The Draft EIS identifies both benefits and impacts Another important issue is the failure to properly address moorage. The Draft EIS has associated with modifying the amount of available moorage. apparently been prepared without any input by professionals with knowledge of marinas, marina operations, and other moorage issues. As a result, the Draft EIS is making arbitrary conclusions about the effects of removing piers, accessing piers, and all other related issues. The City should carefully consider the comments presented by the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club on the Draft EIS on these issues and on adverse impacts to boating safety, which are hereby incorporated by reference. The Draft EIS fails to adequately consider the impacts caused by loss of moorage and the inconsistency with historical boating heritage caused by reducing the moorage available to Bellevue residents. In conclusion, MBNA respectfully requests the City to fully address all these comments by MBNA in the Final EIS or in a Supplemental EIS. Respectfully, MEYDENBAUER BAY NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION By: Marvin B. Peterson, President Appendix 1 - MBNA Mission Statement **3S, 3T, 3U.** Receipt of Appendices 1, 2, and 3 noted. Appendix 2 - MBNA Letter Re: Additional Comments to Letter Submitted October 15, 2008 by MBNA Regarding the Scope of Environmental Impact Statement - Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan dated November 12, 2008 Appendix 3 - MBNA Steering Committee Walkabout: Points of Impact dated March 14, 2009 Appendix 4 - MBNA Meydenbauer Bay Park: Preliminary Review of Park Alternatives and V+ **3V+.** Comments and responses for Appendix 4 follow. Appendix 5 - R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. Letter Re; Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement dated July 20, 2009 **3PP, 3QQ, 3RR.** Receipt of Appendices 5, 6, and 7 noted. QQ Appendix 6 - Robert Bernstein, P.E. Letter Re: Review of traffic and transportation issues associated with proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan in Bellevue, WA dated July 20, 2009 Appendix 7: Steering Committee Charge MBNA Comments on Draft EIS - July 20, 2009 Page 9 of 9

Comn	nent (L	etter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
	Letter#	3, Attachment/Appendix 4	
	MEYDENBAUER BAY NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION		
	Meyden	bauer Bay Park: Preliminary Review of Park Alternatives and Options	
	The following represents the Association's preliminary analysis of Alternatives, parts of Alternatives, and new options that should be carefully considered by the Steering Committee and the Community:		
	BIG PO	<u>INTS</u>	
V	1.	Keep 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Open South of Main—Alternatives 1A/2A. The road open variant is proposed in Alternatives 1A and 2A. Everyone in the Meydenbauer Bay community recognizes the devastating impact on traffic circulation that will be caused by closing 100th Avenue south of Main.	<b>3V.</b> Comment noted.
W	2.	Use the Bayvue Village East Parcel for Parking. The City owns the Bayvue Village Apartments located at the southwest corner of Main and 100 <sup>th</sup> , but Bayvue Village also includes a parcel east of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue south of Main—Bayvue Village East. Bayvue Village East provides an excellent and economical location to provide public parking for the new Meydenbauer Bay Park, and could also provide future parking for Wildwood Park that currently has no off-street parking (after redevelopment of adjacent parcels).	<b>3W</b> . Comment noted.
x	3.	Great Entrance at 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South of Main. The City should create a great entrance to the new Park at the southwest corner of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and Main potentially including an arch over 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue similar to historic ferry entrances. The Great Entrance at the Bayvue Village West site should not include a restaurant, underground parking, elevator, or viewing platform—all of which would commercialize the site and take away from the basic park elements.	<b>3X.</b> Comment noted.
	EAST P	ORTION OF PARK: MODIFIED ALTERNATIVE 1A	
Y	4.	Focus on Alternative 1A. Alternative 1A should be supported because it includes the potential for a Great Entrance at the southwest corner of Main and 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, but keeps 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue open south of Main.	<b>3Y</b> . Comment noted.
Z	5.	Add Handicap Parking at Bottom of 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue. The parking garage and elevators in Alternative 2 are designed to provide handicap access down the hill to the new Park. The parking garage should be rejected in favor of parking at the Bayvue Village East parcel plus adding handicap parking at the bottom of the hill where 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue meets Meydenbauer Bay SE at the road end for 100 <sup>th</sup> Avenue. A number of handicap parking spaces can be provided and will provide even better access to the new Park compared to a parking garage and multiple elevators.	3Z. Comment noted.
AA	<b>√</b> 6.	<u>Improve Park Functions at Bayvue Village West.</u> Alternative 1A should be modified to provide a grand viewing plaza with focus on improving park functions	<b>3AA</b> . Major pathways within the park need to meet ADA requirements, regardless of parking opportunities.
		ner Bay Neighbors Association:  / Review of Park Alternatives and Options  Page 1 of 3	

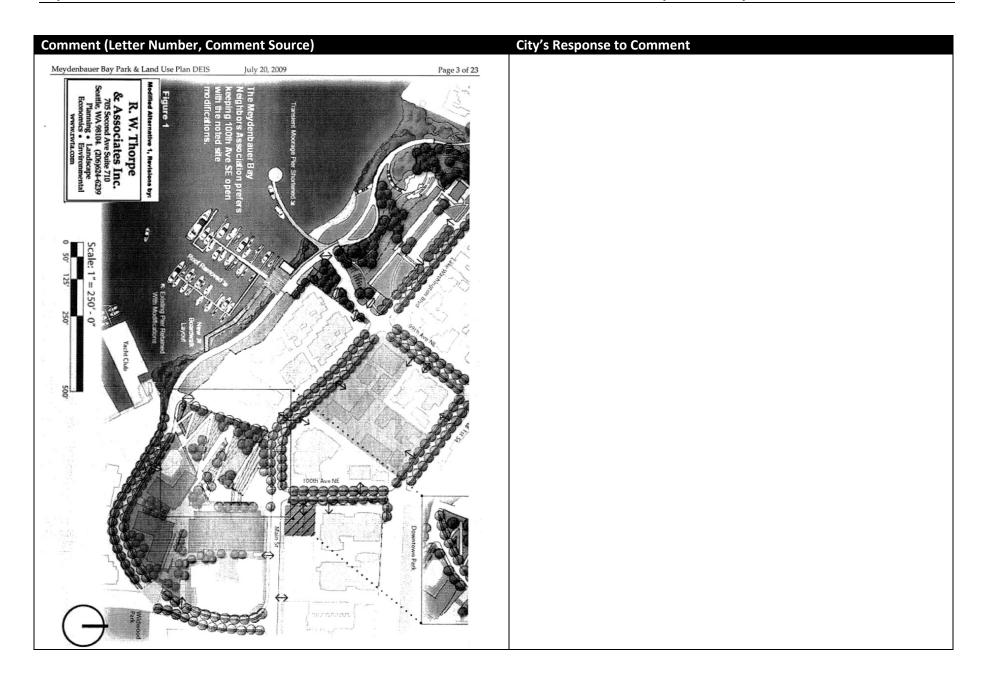
#### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) City's Response to Comment Letter #3, Attachment/Appendix 4 such as grass picnic space. The proposed ADA walkway could be modified if handicap parking spaces are provided at the bottom of hill. Alternative 1A Pedestrian Connection Along Waterfront Preferred. Alternative BB 3BB. Comment noted. 1A includes a pedestrian walkway along the waterfront between 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. The commercial vendor kiosks proposed in Alternative 2 in this waterfront area in front of the Whaler's Cove Condominiums are unacceptable. Pier 3 Should be Retained and Improved. Alternative 1A proposes removal of Pier CC 3. Instead, Pier 3 should be retained and improved by elimination of the canopy etc. 3CC. Comment noted. Pier 2 Canopy Should Be Removed. Alternative 1A proposes removal of canopy DD 3DD. Comment noted. for Pier 3. That action should be implement to improve views. Access to Piers 2 and 3 Needs To Be Considered. The existing access allows Comment noted. Several ADA parking spaces and short term parking vehicle loading and unloading to occur at the end of Piers 2 and 3. Each of the Alternatives appears to block vehicle access along that portion of the waterfront in spaces for loading and unloading would be provided near the moorage piers EE favor of pedestrian only. While pedestrian needs are important, the access needs at under each action alternative. Longer term parking would be located farther the piers should also be considered through design elements and/or limited loading and unloading by permission, times of day, or other means. It should be noted that away. Specific solutions to separating pedestrians and vehicles will be this issue appears to exist with access to Pier 1 as well since the access to the shortdeveloped as part of the project level design. term marina parking is shown as shared with pedestrians off 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue. MIDDLE PORTION OF PARK: MODIFIED ALTERNATIVE 1 **3FF.** Comment noted. Great Entrance II. The City should create a second Great Entrance to the new Park from Lake Washington Boulevard. The views here are spectacular so a grand FF viewing plaza should be strongly considered. **3GG.** Comment noted. The action alternatives include a range of public uses Eliminate Community Buildings and Parking Structure. The community buildings and underground parking structure proposed in both Alternatives 1 and 2 and parking options. The details of pedestrian access and orientation will be GG should be eliminated. These structures take away from the pedestrian orientation of key considerations during project design. the new Park. Vehicular Pull-Out Along Lake Washington Blvd. The vehicular pull-out and 3HH. Comment noted. small parking lot along Lake Washington Boulevard in conjunction with a viewing HH terrace may be acceptable. However, the City will need to focus on unacceptable loitering activities possibly through park hours, gates, and strict enforcement. Maximize Grass Picnic Area on Hillside. The hillside below Lake Washington Boulevard and above the relocated swim beach should be designed to maximize **3II.** Comment noted. picnicking and other passive enjoyment of the Bay views. Each Alternative proposes an "enhanced hillside woodland" for this area which may limit passive enjoyment if the area is set aside as a native growth area with forest shrubs and no grass. In addition, the City should use care in tree selection for this area and on the street since tall growing trees may block views of the Bay not only from the viewing terrace or Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Association: Preliminary Review of Park Alternatives and Options Page 2 of 3

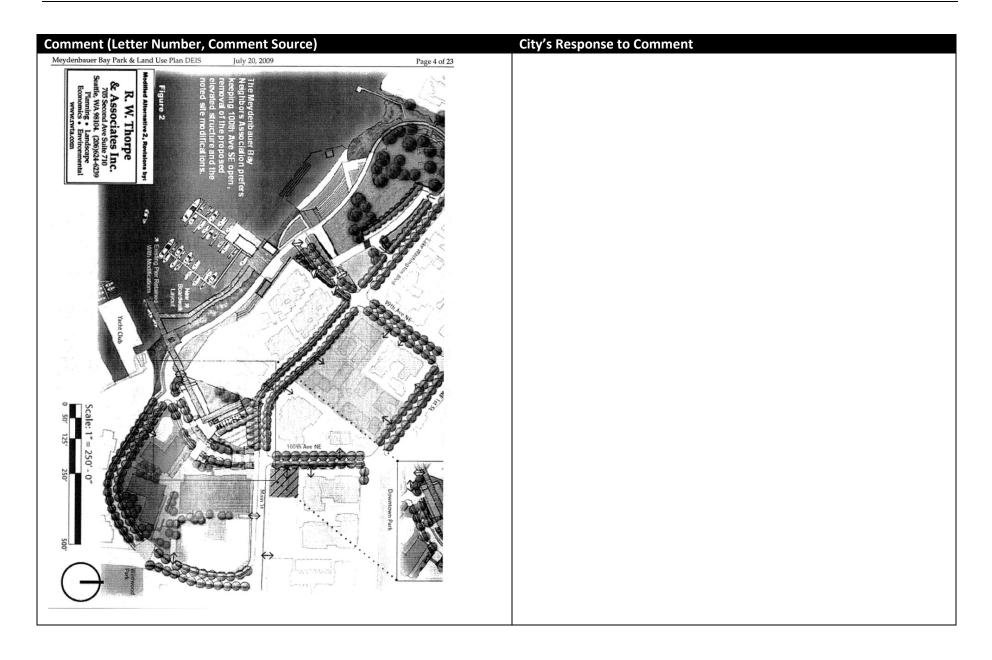
Comment (Le	tter Number, Comment Source)	City's Response to Comment
Let	ter #3, Attachment/Appendix 4	
	grand viewing plaza along Lake Washington Boulevard, but may also block views of from the Whaler's Cove Condominiums and homes across Lake Washington Blvd.	
JJ 15.	<u>Implement Alternative 1 Swim Beach and Public Dock.</u> The Alternative 1 relocated swim beach and new public dock should be implemented. However, the new public dock extends too far into Bay.	<b>3JJ.</b> Comment noted. Specific details, like precise dock length, will be addressed during project design.
KK 16.	Add Small Parking Lot/Designated Drop Off Down 99 <sup>th</sup> Avenue. The No-Action Alternative indicates a small parking lot down the hill and west of 99 <sup>th</sup> Avenue. A small parking lot and designated drop off area at this location or further down the hill could provide access near the new public dock and swimming area. A lot at this location could provide additional handicap parking. In addition, while pedestrian access should be encouraged, a designated short-term loading and unloading area would greatly benefit families with small children and others.	<b>3KK.</b> Comment noted.
LL   17.	Transient Moorage Requires Proper Controls. Any public transient moorage needs to be located at a new public dock as proposed in Alternative 1 to avoid mistaken attempts to moor at Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club. In addition, the City needs to implement proper controls including on-site harbormaster, short-term transient only, limited hours of the day by season, no alcohol, etc. The focus needs to be on loading and unloading of family and friends, and not a place to party.	3LL. Comment noted.
MM   18.	Boating Safety Is Paramount. The City must keep in mind that Meydenbauer Bay is a small area that is used for such activities as the youth sailing program at Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club. The City needs to consider adjustments to the No Wake area and enforcement options to ensure that transient moorage uses maintain high standards of boating safety.	<b>3MM.</b> Comment noted.
WEST PORTION OF PARK: ALTERNATIVE 2 SUPPORTED		
NN 19.	Keep Parking in Ravine As Shown in Alternative 2. The existing parking lot should be retained as shown on Alternative 2/2A. This lot already provides handicap access to the west side of the park, and the dispersal of parking may help avoid traffic congestion.	<b>3NN.</b> Comment noted. The EIS evaluates options for both eliminating and retaining parking in the ravine.
00   20.	Partial Stream Restoration. The partial stream restoration/daylighting proposed in Alternative 2/2A should be implemented to preserve the existing parking lot. However, some consideration should be given to retaining the existing bathrooms rather than destroying that existing asset.	<b>300.</b> Comment noted. The EIS evaluates options for both partial and total daylighting of the stream through the park.

Table 4-4. Comments on the Draft EIS and the City's Responses (Letter #14).

mment (Letter Number, Comment Sou	irce)	City's Response to Comment
ter #14, R.W. Thorpe		
R.W. THORPE & A  Seattle • Anchorage •  Planning • Landscape •		
PRINCIPALS: Robert W. Thorpe, AICP, President Stephen Speidel, ASLA, Of Counsel	ASSOCIATES: Barbara Baker, AICP Lindsay Diallo Lee A. Michaelis, AICP	
July 20, 2009	City of Bollows	
Michael Paine, Environmental Planning Manager Development Services Department City of Bellevue P.O. Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98009-9012	City of Bellevue  JUL 2 0 2009  Service First	
RE: Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan Dra	ft Environmental Impact Statement	
Dear Mr. Paine:		
On behalf of the Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors Asso these comments on the Draft Environmental Imp Park & Land Use Plan. While the City of Bellev establish Bellevue as a waterfront city, our review Meydenbauer Bay will be impacted significantly m are related to both the proposed activities to be loc commercial activity that would result in an increase	pact Statement (DEIS) for the Meydenbauer Bay rue views this as a community benefit that will be of the document concludes that the residents of lone than other Bellevue residents. These impacts cated at the park, and the increase of density and	14A. Comment noted.
R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc. has a long history of Draft Environmental Impact Statements and F following are our comments regarding the adequation the information presented in the DEIS.	inal Environmental Impact Statements. The acy of the DEIS as well as substantive comments	
Our review of the DEIS concluded that there are s addressed either in the Final Environmental Imp	several shortcomings/defects that will need to be pact Statement (FEIS) or a Supplemental Draft	
B proposed alternatives is compatible or or Principles adopted in March of 2007 or the	In our review we have found that neither of the consistent with the City Council's 12 Planning e Steering Committee's June 30th, 2009 vote on 9 new hybrid alternative be created through the n the adopted guiding policies.	<b>14B.</b> The Steering Committee developed a hybrid alternative on July 30, 200 That hybrid is the recommended Preferred Alternative analyzed in the Final EIS.
factors that should have been considered w	rnatives 1 & 2. It appears that there are other then designing the alternatives. The alternatives mber of docks kept, length of piers, location of	<b>14C.</b> These factors were considered in the development of alternatives. A hybrid is included in the Final EIS.

#### Comment (Letter Number, Comment Source) **City's Response to Comment** Letter #14 Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan DEIS July 20, 2009 Page 2 of 23 beach areas, uses and appropriateness of structures in the park (including size & location) and the upland properties in terms of density of rezones, uses, building size, scale, and "no C, cont Commercial" uses west or south of Main Street (except where currently permitted). A hybrid alternative component, compatible with the adopted 12 Planning Principles and existing Comprehensive Goals and Policies should be included in the final EIS or a SDEIS created to address these shortcomings. Modified Shoreline Alternatives: 14D. Comment noted. In response to comments from local residents, and a review of the proposed Alternatives 1 & 2 in the DEIS, RWTA has prepared two modified alternatives that attempt to provide equal benefit to the public, while providing a significant cost savings, lessening construction impacts to the shoreline environment and incorporating community preferences. D This is accomplished by modifying the proposed boardwalk route to allow the existing eastern pier to be retained. The piers would then be modified to allow all slips to be accessed from a single secured gate, and remove some of the over water coverings currently located on the eastern pier. These alternatives significantly lessen the project's impact on the shoreline ecosystem, while still providing a significant public viewing area and a **14E.** The qualitative analysis in the EIS is appropriate for the programmatic, or substantial amount of transient and permanent moorage. nonproject, nature of the proposal. WAC 197-11-442 recognizes that a nonproject EIS will normally have less detailed information available on its These two Alternatives are graphically depicted on the next two pages. environmental impacts, and therefore gives the lead agency more flexibility in "Qualitative" vs. "Quantitative" Approach. The only quantitative data provided in the preparing the EIS. It further provides that impacts and alternatives shall be DEIS relates to traffic. All other issues received only qualitative analysis. State discussed in the level of detail appropriate to the scope of the nonproject Environmental Policy Guidelines (WAC 197-11) calls for a full disclosure document that provides detailed information for decision-makers. It is our professional opinion that this proposal and to the level of planning for the proposal. The environmental document does not provide that level of detail and information. Key to this is enough detail Е analysis undertaken for this proposal is conducted at a broad level; it is not on each issue in a quantitative form, i.e. numbers and statistics, to provide for meaningful mitigation measures. The quantitative data needs to be expanded in all Scoped Elements. intended to document impacts at the project level. Individual development Any proposed mitigation measures need to clearly set forth how the impacts will be projects that implement the proposal may be required to undergo project-level mitigated, and demonstrate that the impacts will not be significant. The mitigation SEPA analysis after they are formally proposed. measures need to be specific enough to provide specific conditions for Local, State, and Federal applications to implement the Meydenbauer Bay Park development phases. **14F.** Cumulative effects for this nonproject action are relevant to the 4. An Analysis of the Cumulative Impacts in the DEIS. The DEIS takes each individual transportation impacts. To the extent that increased density has a cumulative element as a separate entity. There is very little or no discussion of the cumulative effects of all of the elements together. This shortcoming ties into the quantitative/qualitative effect, it is reflected in the contribution to traffic within the study area. By analysis. For example, the proposed rezones and the doubling of residential density in design, the transportation analysis is based on a 2020 model and includes certain upland areas around Meydenbauer Bay Park are not carried forward into the review of other elements of the environment such as view blockage, parking and traffic impacts, projected traffic from all known proposed developments, including City plans, loss of historical and neighborhood character, and loss of businesses. private development permits, projects under construction, and anticipated (note: see Barrie I & II v. Kitsap County - Wa. State Supreme Ct., and Concerned v. Kitsap County on traffic and parking generated by both the land use and park elements of the the need to show the cumulative effect of loss of businesses, residences, etc. in both primary and secondary/tertiary study areas in the EIS.) project. Therefore, cumulative effects are reflected in the transportation analysis summarized in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS and Final EIS.





Letter #14

G

H

J

Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan DEIS

July 20, 2009

Page 5 of 2

The following comments are a result of our analysis and how the proposed park, residential, and commercial activities will have direct impacts on the Meydenbauer Bay Neighbors. These comments detail where the DEIS is inadequate in reviewing the proposal, identifying known impacts, and mitigating the known impacts.

#### Neighborhood Character/Historical Significances/Mix of Land Uses/Impact on Buildable Lands.

- (1) This has been a primary focus of all comprehensive planning practices in the City of Bellevue starting in the early 1960's. In the mid-1980's, i.e., 1985, 1988 – Bellevue developed subarea plans for South Bellevue¹ and the CBD. Essential to the goals and policies of both of those plans was the preservation of the historical character, business mix and scale of Main Street. These goals remain in numerous policies in the City of Bellevue's current Comprehensive Plan and are reflected in the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan Planning Principles.
- (2) The preservation of this historic/cultural area is called for in the Comprehensive Plan and Shorelines Plan. The preservation of this area, unique from the Central Business District, Overlake, and neighborhood community centers (i.e., Factoria, etc.). This calls for pedestrian-friendly areas, the preservation of unique shops, cafes, and restaurants, for the experience of people traveling from downtown to the Meydenbauer area, and for citizens within that community to experience and enjoy their neighborhood. Changes in this area will affect over 1,500 families along Meydenbauer Bay, and a like number in the secondary EIS study area.
- (3) The DEIS has not analyzed the effect that the proposed higher density would have on affordable housing, the opportunities lost and impacts created to the Buildable Lands Element of the Comprehensive Plan. A detailed Buildable Lands analysis should be performed and any impacts created should be mitigated.

#### Effect of Change of Zoning on Adjacent Properties (Functional Utility/ Highest & Best Use/Land Values and Income Streams

A DEIS can, but is not required to look at economic issues. While the DEIS does discuss the benefits of doubling the residential zoning density in certain areas of the primary study area, it cites that incentives are needed in order to promote the redevelopment of these sites. (Note: RWT/A's areas of expertise include the impacts of economic development and rezoning analysis on surrounding properties.) In our professional opinion, in unique historic communities like this an increase in density of no more than 25% (i.e. by increasing lot coverage) provides adequate economic incentive for these areas to transition while maintaining the character of the area. Specific site uses at one or two stories, which do not maximize density, are intrinsic to the character and vitality of this area. Allowing those properties to remain in their present state, with adequate income streams to perpetuate their use in the future, is consistent with the long-standing goals of Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan, South Bellevue Subarea Plan, and CBD Plans. We do agree that a 50% increase in the number of Dwelling Units per Acre, may be necessary for

### **City's Response to Comment**

14G. Comment noted.

**14H.** Comment noted.

**14I.** To the extent that existing dwelling units are removed to accommodate redevelopment in the future as a result of the proposal, and to the extent that those dwelling units are defined as affordable at the time of redevelopment, their removal will result in a reduction in the City's affordable housing stock unless replaced with new affordable housing either on site or elsewhere in the city. However, the alternatives evaluated in the EIS are not expected to have a significant adverse impact on the City's ability to achieve either its affordable housing or household and employment goals. Affordable housing goals are addressed in the City's Comprehensive Plan, as mandated by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). The City is planning for a housing supply that will meet the needs of all economic segments of the community, and is working toward achieving the housing targets established in coordination with the King County Growth Management Planning Council and adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies. Similarly, the GMA planning framework includes the establishment of 20-year household and jobs targets for the City. Bellevue's targets are 10,117 additional housing units and 40,000 additional jobs by the year 2022. The City has determined, based in part on a Buildable Lands Report (City of Bellevue 2008), that it has the zoning capacity to meet these targets.

**14J.** The current density of individual parcels in the areas where increased density is proposed ranges from 30 to 60 dwelling units per acre. As described in Section 2.6.1 of the Draft EIS, 60 units per acre was determined through market analysis to be the minimum density needed to facilitate, although not ensure, redevelopment. Properties will not be required to redevelop; they can remain in their present state if the owners so choose.

Density, height, and FAR increases are not proposed for "underutilized" parcels (i.e., Brant Photography and Chevron) (in fact, no height increases are proposed for any parcel), as the City expects these parcels will redevelop over time consistent with their DNTN-OB(A) zoning.

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redevelopment of "under-utilized" projects; other incentives, like increase in building height or FAR may not be required for redevelopment to occur.

7. Historic Character. 100th Ave SE was one of Bellevue's first streets. It connected the ferry dock to Main Street and the emerging Bellevue suburban area. The historic character is seen in the waterfront development and surrounding older apartments and condominiums, and the local pedestrian character of Main Street extending east, not only to Bellevue Way, but also to 112th. According to County records, 100th Ave SE was dedicated in 1913, the dedication language calling for utilization of a road. This raises a question—Does it's historic character and function argue that it qualifies for Historic Designation under King County's review process? Closing 100th Ave SE not only creates a traffic circulation issue, but it closes down an important element of the Meydenbauer Bay history.

8. Land Use/Transportation/Parking development in the area. The combination of significant increases in density in some sites and the loss of smaller scale buildings will result in significant impacts on affordable housing, the mix of median/moderate income residents in the area, and create a significant increase in traffic.

The closing of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave SE will significantly impact circulation and access. We question whether the DEIS traffic analysis adequately analyzes the potential over 20 years of all the transitional land uses around Meydenbauer Bay Park and activities in the park. The road closure of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave SE would impact several properties' future Highest and Best Use. This action could "take on the cloud of a partial take", which may in turn have significant impact on the long-term use and viability of those properties.

Examples would include the 10000 Meydenbauer Condominiums – the loss of access to 100th Ave SE would be to move their front door to the garage off of Meydenbauer Way. This would impact access for handicapped, the elderly and emergency vehicle access. This option is also not structurally viable due to the fact that the interior elevator shaft adjoins the existing entrance door. In addition, access may be significantly impacted for the Vue Condominiums north of 100th Ave SE whose access is directly onto 100th Ave SE at Meydenbauer Way. Access for fire trucks, solid waste vehicles, emergency vehicles, and police would be impacted by 100th Ave SE closure in either alternative. These issues and concerns are not discussed in the DEIS, nor does the conceptual design have details showing mitigation that would be necessary to offset these impacts. (See attached photo inventory, Appendix A.)

### City's Response to Comment

**14K.** 100th Avenue SE will continue to function as a vital link from Meydenbauer Bay to the adjacent neighborhoods, by creating a pedestrian-oriented gateway. Adaptive reuse of the Whaling Building is intended to reflect the historical role that Meydenbauer Bay played in the beginnings of Bellevue. Historical acknowledgements could also be conveyed in public art, the nature of which would be determined at the project level. The impacts of road closure on traffic circulation were evaluated in Section 3.9 of the Draft EIS. Additional information specific to the Preferred Alternative is contained in Section 3.9 of the Final EIS.

**14L.** Traffic impacts are analyzed in Section 3.9 of the Draft and Final EIS. Also see Response 14I, above.

**14M.** The traffic analysis in the Draft EIS and in the Final EIS evaluates transportation impacts to the year 2020, and takes into account redevelopment of currently underdeveloped parcels. Adverse impacts on "Highest and Best Use" are speculative and not considered likely.

**14N.** The City has considered access and emergency access to surrounding properties, in particular Ten Thousand Meydenbauer. Access is available from Meydenbauer Way SE and from the bottom of 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE with bollards or other methods to limit access to emergency vehicles. Specific solutions will be developed at the project-design level. See Comment Letter 5, Response 5A.

**140.** Emergency access to the Vue Condominiums is available from both Lake Washington Boulevard and the shoreline promenade. Emergency service providers have reviewed the action alternatives evaluated in the EIS and are satisfied that adequate emergency service can be provided in the event of emergency.

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In addition to commenting on issues found throughout the DEIS, we looked at the three most affected Environment Elements:

- 1. Chapter 3.4 Land Use
- 2. Chapter 3.5 Shorelines
- 3. Chapter 3.7 Visual Quality
- 4. Chapter 3.10 Noise

#### Land Use

The basis of this review is the 12 adopted planning policies and the City of Bellevue Comprehensive Plan to include North Bellevue, Southwest Bellevue and Downtown Subarea Plans.

#### **Planning Principles**

 Remarkable and memorable shoreline experience. The park will be an extraordinary community-wide public asset. The new park will greatly increase waterfront access, recreational opportunities for all Bellevue residents, and in conjunction with its proximity to the Downtown Park and neighborhood, establish Bellevue as a waterfront city.

Waterfront access can be accomplished with the removal of the Single Family Residences on city owned property. There is no need for an increase in either density of residential units or the closing of 100th Ave SE. The proposal appears to go beyond the city council's vision in the adopted policies.

Community wide assets should be shared by the community without impacting one specific neighborhood (Meydenbauer Bay). No information has been provided to justify the need to increase density which would result in increased traffic and other services.

A pedestrian friendly corridor can be provided between Downtown Park and Meydenbauer Bay via either 100th Ave SE or the existing Meydenbauer Beach Park access (98th Pl NE – the "Ravine") without a change in land use or closing of public streets. An additional option that needs to be explored is a one way street system utilizing 100th Ave SE. Half of the right of way could be used for pedestrian and bicycle access.

2. Spectrum of activities. The new park should provide visitors with a wide range of activities and experiences, from active recreation such as swimming and sailing to passive enjoyment of intimate, green, natural area. The park plan should artfully blend traditional park uses with a new urban experience, allowing individuals to enjoy different or multiple experiences with each visit or over time.

All proposed passive recreational opportunities should be focused in those areas that are adjacent to single family residential homes. Other "new urban experiences" that would attract visitors year round should be focused in areas that are currently centers of vehicle and pedestrian traffic (Main St. and 100th Ave SE). Locating these uses in appropriate places will facilitate the protection of the established single family neighborhoods and concentrate traffic in areas where there currently is a higher volume of traffic.

### **City's Response to Comment**

**14P.** The planning principles were approved by the Council to guide the Steering Committee in its work. The principles are qualitative and subjective. As such, differing interpretations of their intent or the extent to which they are fulfilled by any alternative is expected. The Steering Committee spent substantial time discussing the planning principles and studying options and arrived at a Preferred Alternative that they determined is consistent with their charge and with the principles. The City Council will ultimately determine whether the principles have been fulfilled and appropriately balanced.

In response to some of the specific questions/concerns raised in this section, this added information or clarification is provided:

Comment: "No information has been provided to justify the need to increase density which would result in increased traffic and other services".

Response: The density increase is based on market research and economic modeling conducted by the City's economic consultant (EPS, Inc.) during the land use phase of this project. EPS determined that 60 dwelling units per acre was the minimum density needed to entice redevelopment in the affected areas.

Comment: "Bonuses or incentives should be focused on those few properties with transitional land uses, such as the gas station or photography studio, already zoned CBD-OB-SubA."

Response: Because these two properties are located in the DNTN-OB(A) district, which allows a wide range of uses, FAR of up to 3.5, and building heights of up to 55 feet, no additional incentives in terms of uses, density, or heights were determined necessary to encourage their redevelopment.

Comment: "The type of vegetation proposed in the development scenarios will also eliminate the potential for views from residences along Lake Washington Blvd."

Response: A landscape/vegetation plan has not been developed. That will occur at the project level.

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3. Complementary land uses. Urban design and land uses in the upland area adjacent to the park should be pedestrian-oriented and serve the broader community to make the transition from the upland to the shoreline seamless, enjoyable inviting, and compelling. They should draw the pedestrian toward the water, convey a sense of excitement, and provide an interactive experience between the waterfront and upland areas.

The City of Bellevue Land Use Code currently has regulations that can accomplish this policy without new zoning districts, overlays, or design regulations. Bonuses or incentives should be focused on those few properties with transitional land uses, such as the gas station or photography studio, already zoned CBD-OB-SubA. Proposed incentives may encourage the redevelopment of these properties consistent with the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

4. Increased physical and visual access. Corridors that visually open up the waterfront from upland areas and that facilitate pedestrian movement from Downtown Park to the waterfront should be maximized. It is critical that corridors and public spaces overcome real or perceived physical obstacles to reaching the shoreline.

By increasing the lot coverage or significantly reducing the setbacks on residential lots, view corridors along property lines will be eliminated. The type of vegetation proposed in the development scenarios will also eliminate the potential for views from residences along Lake Washington Blvd.

5. Pedestrian priority. The park and its connections should be places that can be enjoyed by pedestrians without fear of conflicts with automobiles. Where vehicle drives or parking area are necessary, they should be designed and located to promote a "pedestrian first" message.

A safe pedestrian walkway and narrow meandering vehicle route can be accomplished within the Bayvue Village West properties and adjacent public right of way. The intent of this policy can be met without the closure of  $100^{\rm th}$  Ave SE.

6. Economic vitality. The park and its connections should support the nearby business community, providing an interactive and welcoming environment for downtown employees, residents, and visitors. Land uses and urban design elements should contribute to the economic vitality of the area as a whole.

By incorporating new commercial activity, the plan will be creating an atmosphere for competition with the nearby commercial enterprises. No new commercial activity should be incorporated into the plan.

### **City's Response to Comment**

Comment: "No new commercial activity should be incorporated into the plan."

Response: Your preference regarding commercial uses is noted. The EIS evaluates a range of options for types and extent of commercial activity. Limited expansion of retail activity is envisioned east of 100th Avenue SE (south of Main Street); options evaluated for commercial activity within the park itself include vendor kiosks, small watercraft (e.g., canoe and kayak [PPV]) rental, and boat moorage at the marina, and a cafe.

Comment: "However, extensive use of building structures throughout the park is not in line with the intent of the Council."

Response: The Council has not expressed its intent concerning buildings. Few buildings are proposed, although a range of structures is evaluated under the action alternatives.

Comment: "Incorporation of an elevated boardwalk does not "improve shoreline characteristics"; disruption of the bay through demolition and construction of new piers does not "improve water quality"."

Response: The plan overall represents improved shoreline characteristics and water quality conditions over the long term due to the opportunity for new stormwater treatment facilities, shoreline restoration, stream daylighting, conformance with current regulations applicable to over-water structure design, and other features. The EIS recognizes that there will be short-term impacts associated with in-water/over-water construction, and that not every individual component of the proposal will improve water quality conditions. No adverse impacts on the shoreline or water quality have been identified with respect to the elevated boardwalk.

Comment: "The city should consider appropriate uses in the historic preservation of the Whaling Building and related structures."

Response: That is the intent. Specific uses will be determined at the project level.

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7. Superior design. The park should be reinforced, communicated and celebrated through high quality urban design, landscape architecture, building design and streetscape treatment, not only within the park itself but also throughout nearby public spaces and park connections. The plan should reflect a high standard of excellence.

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The plan as proposed meets the intent of this planning principal. However, extensive use of building structures throughout the park is not in line with the intent of the Council.

8. Environmental Stewardship. The park design should respect and reflect its unique and sensitive waterfront setting. The plan should explore opportunities to incorporate measures that improve the shoreline characteristics and water quality in the bay. Best practices for sustainable building and land management should be incorporated.

Incorporation of an elevated boardwalk does not "improve shoreline characteristics"; disruption of the bay through demolition and construction of new piers does not "improve water quality". The plan, as proposed, should be re-evaluated.

9. History. The park design should recognize the heritage of Meydenbauer Bay, from the time of Native Americans, explorers and early settlers to the industries of whaling, ferrying, and today's residential and pleasure boat moorage. The plan should assess opportunities to preserve and reuse structures of historical note and incorporate means to animate the bay's rich heritage through public art and interpretive programs.

With the exception of the removal of major moorage (which is an immediate tie to the maritime past of the site), the closing of 100th Ave SE (which was the primary route of travel for the historical eras mentioned in the planning principal) and some areas proposed for increased density causing the conversion of historical uses and structures, the proposed plan makes efforts to recognize the historical significance of the area. The city should consider appropriate uses in the historic preservation of the Whaling Building and related structures.

10. Neighborhood enhancement and protection. The land use component should be a catalyst for revitalization of older uses while minimizing impacts on neighboring residential areas. Redevelopment of properties in the study area or conversion of apartment buildings to condominiums is expected in the foreseeable future. The land use plan should ensure through rules or incentives that these actions occur in a manner that is both consistent with the area's land use vision and sensitive to adjacent residential

The proposed increase in multiple family density is neither consistent with the three Subarea Plans nor does it protect the existing single family residential neighborhood west of 99th Ave NE, or the single family neighborhoods south of the bay (due to increased traffic congestion and noise). If bonus incentives are needed to facilitate redevelopment of older uses, then the multiple family residential properties should be rezoned to a more compatible density such as R-45 and other incentives, if needed, should be limited to those properties located within the Downtown Subarea (Brandt and Chevron Properties).

### **City's Response to Comment**

Comment: "If bonus incentives are needed to facilitate redevelopment of older uses, then the multiple family residential properties should be rezoned to a more compatible density such as R-45, and other incentives, if needed, should be limited to those properties located with the Downtown Subarea (Brant and Chevron Properties)".

Response: As stated in Section 2.6.1 of the Draft EIS, the option of an R-45 density was eliminated from consideration because it did not provide sufficient financial incentive to cause redevelopment. Density incentives are not necessary for the Brant Photography and Chevron sites due to the current use, density, and height allowances of their DNTN-OB(A) zoning.

Comment: "Any modifications to allowable land uses as a result of the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan must be consistent with and be allowed under the existing and proposed Shoreline Master Program."

Response: At the Master Plan level, the alternatives evaluated in the EIS are consistent with the state guidelines and will be required to be consistent with the goals and policies for Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Updates. Implementation of the plan will require conformance with any specific regulations that result from the City's SMP Update process. Such conformance will be determined at the project level.

Comment: "In addition, final decisions have been made by the Steering Committee prior to receipt of finalized EIS Comments from the public."

Response: The Steering Committee's selection of a recommended Preferred Alternative occurred at the end of July 2009, after the close of the Draft EIS comment period. The committee attended the June 23, 2009, public hearing on the Draft EIS, and was forwarded all public comments received during the comment period prior to arriving at its recommendation. Identification of a Preferred Alternative is not a decision or an action under SEPA. A final decision on the proposal has not yet been made, and can only be made by the City Council after completion of the environmental review process.

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The properties within the Downtown Subarea are also the farthest away from the single family zones which reduces the impacts resulting from increased commercial activity.

Additionally, the Meydenbauer Plan is directly contrary to the notion of "neighborhood enhancement and protection" by introducing elements such as: 1) structures blocking existing residential views (proposed bathrooms, conference/community building, elevated pier with/without elevator) and 2) removal of existing necessary infrastructure (closure of 100<sup>th</sup>)

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11. Coordinated planning process. The park master plan and the land use plan will impact and influence one another. The planning schedule needs to be flexible and expedient, necessitating close coordination.

The Planning Policies neglected to mention the update of the Shoreline Master Program. Any modifications to allowable land uses as a result of the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan must be consistent with and be allowed under the existing and proposed Shoreline Master Program. The SMP update should be completed prior to finalizing the EIS. In addition, final decisions have been made by the Steering Committee prior to receipt of finalized EIS Comments from the public.

12. Commitment to implement. The Waterfront Plan should include an implementation strategy that leads to the fulfillment of the vision.

There is no specific chapter in the DEIS specific to project implementation; it is assumed that upon adoption by City Council, those properties held in private ownership would redevelop at the will of the owner and at a time more economically favorable. Public property would redevelop when funds are available.

#### North Bellevue Subarea Plan

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The following are the Land Use Policies from the North Bellevue Subarea Plan. Following each policy is a review of the proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan. This analysis is for that area within the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan that is west of 100th Ave SE and northwest of SE Bellevue Place.

"POLICY S-NB-1. Protect single-family residential areas through the rehabilitation and maintenance of the existing housing stock and other methods."

Rezoning the residential property from R-30 to R-60 would have a direct impact on the residences directly west of 99th Ave NE which is inconsistent with this policy which calls for protection of these areas. To assist in resolving the nonconforming structures and uses that are present and to provide a limited amount of additional residences, a new R-45 zone would be more compatible with the single family area to the west. The proposed zone should maintain current height requirements, but allow reduced setbacks and increased lot coverage while maintaining view corridors.

Plan and Land Use Code will be needed to implement the proposal. These amendments include laying the foundation in the Comprehensive Plan and developing the implementing regulations in the Land Use Code to accommodate changes to land use, density, and dimensional regulations in exchange for public benefits. Whether this will be accomplished through a new land use district, overlay district, or other zoning tool has not yet been determined. In addition, Comprehensive Plan Amendments may be needed to reconcile any differences between existing policies and the Master Plan in its final version as adopted by the Council. It is possible that amendments to the Downtown, North Bellevue, and Southwest Bellevue subarea plans (of the Comprehensive Plan) will be necessary, since portions of the study area are located in all three.

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"POLICY S-NB-2. Provide for land uses and a range of density on undeveloped land in North Bellevue that will not over-burden its ability to remain a viable residential area."

Currently there are no vacant parcels within the study area; however there are parcels that potentially could be redeveloped. To create a minimal amount of new units that would achieve the goals of the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan and to protect the existing single family neighborhoods, a new R-45 zone should be created to allow those properties that have potential to redevelop to maintain their current nonconforming densities. The proposed zone should maintain current height requirements, but allow reduced setbacks and increased lot coverage while maintaining view corridors.

"POLICY S-NB-3. Scale down multifamily and office development as it approaches single-family areas so as to create an appropriate transition."

No commercial development or community activity (community building, education center, vender kiosks, storage warehouse, parking structures or cafes) should be proposed in the area south of Lake Washington Boulevard or in front of, or west of, Whaler's Cove Condominiums. This is an area with a long history of single family residences and park activity. Locating a community center in this area would impact the neighborhood with additional traffic, noise, and visual intrusion. If these activities are an essential part of the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan, a more suitable location would be in the present location of the Bayvue Village Apartments. This location is more accessible from the arterials and provides a location meeting the intent of the 12 planning policies. The taller buildings adjacent would assist in eliminating additional noise created by visitors to the center; further protecting the single family residences to the west.

"POLICY S-NB-4. Limit all future retail and commercial (which excludes office) development to areas presently established as retail and commercial centers."

Similar to the analysis above, locating the proposed community and education centers closer to the established commercial arterials of 100th Ave SE and Main Street is consistent with the Policy of the North Bellevue Subarea Plan.

"POLICY S-NB-5. Prohibit strip commercial development on Bellevue Way from N.E. 12th Street to SR 520."

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

#### Southwest Bellevue Subarea Plan

This analysis is for that area within the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan that is southeast of SE Bellevue Place and south of the Chevron and Astoria Properties.

"POLICY S-SW-1. Support the existing land use patterns and densities as shown on the Land Use Plan (Figure S-SSW.1) with the maintenance of capital facilities and services."

Any proposed changes to the properties within the Southwest Bellevue Subarea would be inconsistent with this policy. Many of the properties are zoned multiple family and have multiple family uses on them; numerous other properties are zoned single family and have single family uses on them. The existing land uses and zoning should remain as required by this policy.

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"POLICY S-SW-2. Protect single-family residential neighborhoods from the adverse impacts of multifamily and commercial development."

There are numerous single family residences on the properties within the Southwest Bellevue Subarea that will be impacted by: traffic from any increased development, increased congestion associated with the closure of  $100^{\rm th}$  Ave SW, noise related to increased traffic and noise related to commercial use of any structures in the Park.

"POLICY S-SW-3. Limit expansion of retail service and professional office uses to locations where permitted by this subarea plan."

The proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan-Alternatives 1 and 2 propose new commercial activity for the Chevron and Bayvue East site, and potentially for the Meydenbauer Apartment site. Except for the Chevron site (currently zoned CBD-OB-SubA), no further consideration for commercial zoning should take place in this Subarea.

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"POLICY S-SW-4. Support neighborhood business areas to provide convenient local shopping opportunities."

The proposed Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan-Alternatives 1 and 2, if the option to close 100<sup>th</sup> Ave is included, will prohibit residents in the Southwest Bellevue Subarea from accessing local shopping opportunities. Residents will be forced to drive to SE 8<sup>th</sup> to access Bellevue Way to gain "reasonable" access to Old Bellevue and/or Downtown. If residents can get directly to Main St, it will be so congested to no longer qualify as "reasonable or convenient". Do not propose the closure of 100<sup>th</sup> or any new commercial activity for those properties within the Southwest Bellevue Subarea Plan. No further consideration for commercial zoning should take place.

"POLICY S-SW-5. Residential development up to 15 units per acre (R-15) is appropriate on the land designated Multifamily-Medium (MF-M) at 1108 and 1110 Bellevue Way S.E."

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

"POLICY S-SW-6. Zoning designations of R-2.5 and R-3.5 are appropriate to reflect the existing development density on the land designated Single-family - Medium on the west side of 104th Avenue S.E. in the vicinity of S.E. 16th Street."

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

POLICY S-SW-7. Zoning designations of R-2.5 and R-3.5 are appropriate to reflect the existing development density on land designated Single-family - Medium in the vicinity of S.E. 19th Street, S.E. 20th Street, 104th Avenue S.E., and 107th Avenue S.E.

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

POLICY S-SW-8. Maintain the borders of the Downtown Bellevue Subarea as established by the 1979 Subarea Plan to prevent the spread of Downtown into adjacent residential neighborhoods. The Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan proposes to provide a link between downtown and the waterfront. This link should be a visual connection with pedestrian linkages for visitors. By providing additional commercial and civic activity, the plan is inconsistent and violates the original intent of this policy. The borders should be recognized and no new overlay or subarea should be created to

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fit the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan. The Planning Principles recognized the need to coordinate plans; not to modify existing plans.

POLICY S-SW-9. Retain significant trees adjacent to the Single-family area east of future multifamily development along the east side of Bellevue Way between S.E. 10th Street and S.E. 11th Street.

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

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POLICY S-SW-10. Ensure through design review that Single-family access is separated from multifamily parking by a landscaped buffer strip.

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

#### Downtown Subarea Plan

This analysis is for that area within the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan that is north of Main St and east of  $100^{\rm th}$  Ave SE and includes the Chevron and Astoria Properties.

"POLICY S-DT-1. Emphasis shall be placed on Downtown livability, with provisions made for the needs, activities, and interests of Downtown residents, employees, shoppers, and visitors."

By maintaining the existing zoning and not creating an additional overlay district, the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan complies with this policy.

POLICY S-DT-2. Encourage a variety of land uses to occur in mixed-use buildings or complexes where appropriate.

By maintaining the existing zoning and not creating an additional overlay district, the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan complies with this policy

"POLICY S-DT-3. Develop Downtown as an aesthetically attractive area."

The existing Perimeter Design District A complies with the intent of this policy. No new design requirements are needed and therefore are not being proposed.

"POLICY S-DT-4. The highest intensity development shall be located in the core of Downtown, with diminishing intensities towards the edges of Downtown (see Figure A for delineation of Core Area and Perimeter Area)."

By maintaining the existing zoning and not creating an additional overlay district, the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan complies with this policy

"POLICY S-DT-5. Organize Downtown to provide complementary functional relationships between various land uses."

By maintaining the existing zoning and not creating an additional overlay district, the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan complies with this policy

"POLICY S-DT-6. Develop Downtown as the Eastside's most concentrated and diverse regional retail district."

By creating new zoning and a new overlay district, the Meydenbauer Plan is not consistent with this policy; the plan fosters the extension of Downtown retail into adjacent residential Subareas.

# Chapter 4 – Comments and Responses on the Draft EIS

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"POLICY S-DT-7. Encourage Downtown to continue to serve surrounding residential areas as a neighborhood retail district."

By maintaining the existing zoning and not creating an additional overlay district, the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan complies with this policy. A major exception is the provision to close 100th Ave SE, which will severely restrict access to Downtown, especially to residents south of Main St.

"POLICY S-DT-8. Locate major office development in the Downtown core in order to complement retail activities and facilitate public transportation (see Figure A)."

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

"POLICY S-DT-9. Provide bonus incentives (related to permitted intensity, height, etc.) for private developments to accomplish the public objectives outlined in this Plan."

The two properties within this Subarea that are most likely to redevelop are the ideal locations to provide incentives for higher density residential and commercial uses. The City of Bellevue may want to re-evaluate this area and include incentives in this area rather than the multiple family zoned properties closer to the single family residential neighborhood.

"POLICY S-DT-10. Require design review to ensure high quality, aesthetically pleasing Downtown development.

The existing Perimeter Design District A complies with the intent of this policy. No new design requirements are needed and therefore are not being proposed.

"POLICY S-DT-11. Encourage the development of major civic, convention, and cultural uses within Downtown."

The Meydenbauer Plan's proposed conference/community center, consisting of a 4,000 to 8,000 sf building, could be deemed contrary to this policy. Development of this size is not compatible with the surrounding residential and mixed use development.

"POLICY S-DT-12. Expand the convention center as a resource for convention and community uses, and explore opportunities for complementary uses."

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

"POLICY S-DT-13. Encourage private participation in development of Downtown community facilities."

This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

"POLICY S-DT-14. Encourage visual and performing arts organizations to locate Downtown." This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

"POLICY S-DT-15. Encourage the assembly of land or coordination of development as appropriate to facilitate a quality built environment."

The two properties most likely to redevelop (Chevron and Brandt Properties) cannot be consolidated, due to the right of way. Coordinated development of the Chevron and Bayvue East

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	sites is not compatible with the surrounding residential and mixed use development, as this proposal is ultimately an extension of the boundary of Downtown Zoning into the adjacent Subarea	
	(the Bayvue East site is zoned R-30).	
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	"POLICY S-DT-16. Restrict the location of drive-in and drive-through activities within the Downtown Subarea."	
G G	This Policy is not relevant to the analysis of the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan	
	Recommended Land Use Revisions to the Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan	
	Rezone the specified family properties within the North Bellevue and Southwest Bellevue	<b>14R.</b> Comments/recommendations noted.
	Subareas to R-45 and not the proposed R-60.	
	<ul> <li>This would allow a minimal amount of new units within an area already zoned for multiple family.</li> </ul>	
\$	b. This zone would assist in converting some nonconforming sites to conforming sites	
	c. A potential zone of R 45 would protect the single family residences by minimizing	
\$3	traffic impacts and reducing the potential noise created by future residents.  d. Establish additional incentives for redevelopment other than an increase in density.	
R	Connectivity between downtown and the waterfront will be utilized more by	
	visitors than by residents.	
*	<ol><li>No new commercial, civic, or educational activity should be created in the residential area that is now zoned R 3.5.</li></ol>	
	a. This will further protect the remaining residences across Lake Washington	
14	Boulevard NE.	
	3. A new 3,000sf Community Center should be located on the current location of the Bayvue	
	Village Properties (West).  4. 100th Ave SE should remain open for existing residences and for new users of the relocated	
	community/educational center.	
	a. Incorporate a pedestrian walkway into the community center on the corner	
* **	property. A narrower roadway is possible to provide a more pedestrian friendly atmosphere.	
	5. Parking for park use and other proposed civic activities can be accommodated on the	
	eastern property of the Bayvue Village Apartments, south of the Chevron site.	
	<ul> <li>County records show that the Bayvue Village Apartments site, located at 114 100<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Ave SE, is approximately 18,540 square feet in area and could provide</li> </ul>	
	approximately 40-50 parking spaces to accommodate the relocated	
183	community/education center, on the Bayview (West) site.	
	b. This would further protect the single family residences and locate new traffic on	
	already existing traffic areas.  6. Maintain existing commercial zoning designations.	
	a. Do not expand commercial activity into residential zones.	
	b. Do not create a new overlay district that would establish new commercial activity	
	<ol> <li>Concentrate bonuses and incentives for redevelopment on the properties zoned Downtown- Old Bellevue.</li> </ol>	

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#### **Shorelines**

The basis of this review is the 12 adopted planning policies.

### **Planning Principles**

 Remarkable and memorable shoreline experience. The park will be an extraordinary community-wide public asset. The new park will greatly increase waterfront access, recreational opportunities for all Bellevue residents, and in conjunction with its proximity to the Downtown Park and neighborhood, establish Bellevue as a waterfront city.

A "remarkable and memorable shoreline experience" is understood but hard to identify, much like the word "community". The City of Bellevue is by definition a waterfront city and also a community.

The Program Elements presented in the park plan and land use alternatives will support the shoreline experience. For some, this community wide asset would best be developed as a busy shoreline with lots of activity; for others a tranquil family beach and walking experience in the middle of an urban center would be extraordinary.

These experiences can be remarkably good and memorable, or remarkably not good and just as memorable. Often what is wrong with a plan does not show up until after the fact.

Figures 3.6.2 Park photos show the <u>existing</u> Meydenbauer Beach Park Pier. This pier protects swimmers in the park from incoming boat traffic. In Alternative 1 this protection is removed and although a pier is present in Alternative 2, the swimming area has moved east. The reconfigured Pier 1 puts dock traffic maneuvering toward this eastern swim area and lifeguard float.

The Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club believes the transient moorage should not be next to the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club western pier because of a safety issue related to the sailing education program located on their western pier. Keep moorage for transients to the west of the Whaler building or eliminate it from the plan.

2. Spectrum of activities. The new park should provide visitors with a wide range of activities and experiences, from active recreation such as swimming and sailing to passive enjoyment of intimate, green, natural area. The park plan should artfully blend traditional park uses with a new urban experience, allowing individuals to enjoy different or multiple experiences with each visit or over time.

The addition of commercial food kiosks, a café, additional storage warehouses and/or community buildings (rented for public use, including catered food service) to the park has been a concern of the Meydenbauer Bay community. These concerns include; increased food trash which could be thrown into the Bay, and increase in pest animals in search of food. The existing and historic warehouse facilities appear to be underutilized and should be adequate to support any intended rental activities.

### **City's Response to Comment**

**145.** The planning principles were approved by the Council to guide the Steering Committee in its work. They are qualitative and subjective. As such, differing interpretations of their intent or the extent to which they are fulfilled by any alternative is expected. The Steering Committee spent substantial time discussing the planning principles and studying options and arrived at a Preferred Alternative that they determined is consistent with their charge and the principles. The City Council will ultimately determine whether the principles have been fulfilled and appropriately balanced. In response to some of the specific questions/concerns raised in this section, added information or clarification is provided:

Comment: "Keep moorage for transients to the west of the Whaler building or eliminate it from the plan."

Response: Requirements of the funding sources used to purchase the marina properties require that transient moorage for at least 14 boats be provided on/at the property the funds helped purchase. It must be provided between 99th Ave NE and 100th Ave SE/SE Bellevue Place. It cannot be eliminated.

Comment: "The addition of commercial food kiosks, a café, additional storage warehouses and/or community buildings (rented for public use, including catered food service) to the park has been a concern of the Meydenbauer Bay community..."

Response: Concerns of the community with respect to these uses are acknowledged. The EIS evaluates a variety of uses and their impacts at a programmatic level.

Comment: Various comments relating to visual quality, visual simulations, and renderings.

Response: A number of graphics and visual simulations were included in the Draft EIS to illustrate concepts represented by the various alternatives. They are not intended to cover every possible vantage point, nor are they intended to convey final design or landscape treatments or details. Graphics have been updated where appropriate to reflect the Preferred Alternative (see Chapters 1 and 2 and Section 3.7 of the Final EIS).

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3. Complementary land uses. Urban design and land uses in the upland area adjacent to the park should be pedestrian-oriented and serve the broader community to make the transition from the upland to the shoreline seamless, enjoyable inviting, and compelling. They should draw the pedestrian toward the water, convey a sense of excitement, and provide an interactive experience between the waterfront and upland areas.

A design which is seamless, enjoyable, inviting, and has a compelling transition represents a very subjective design ideal. The resulting "design" should be supported by neighborhood residents who also share the shoreline on Meydenbauer Bay.

4. Increased physical and visual access. Corridors that visually open up the waterfront from upland areas and that facilitate pedestrian movement from Downtown Park to the waterfront should be maximized. It is critical that corridors and public spaces overcome real or perceived physical obstacles to reaching the shoreline.

3.5.1.1 & (2) Existing Condition & Public access: Increased physical access to the shoreline for ADA park clients is "Qualitatively" enhanced by being able to drive down 100th Ave to confirm access before exiting the car.

Fig 3.7-15 – View 2 Alternative 1A - Visual access to the shoreline appears to be downgraded, as compared to Alternative 1 because of the artist rendering of strategically placed trees. A rendering which shows a landscape of low shrubs as a buffer from the road should be completed for comparison.

Figure 3.7-14, 15, 16 & 17 The Elevator Tower and Elevated Viewpoint of Alternative 2 are a potential visual barrier to the "View of Water" because the arbor structure and the elevation the Café with green roof foreshortens the shoreline view, especially to 10000 Meydenbauer and the Vue Condominiums, and presents visual impacts to Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club, as well as 101 Meydenbauer, Bayshore East and single family residents directly across the bay.

A comparison of pedestrian movement down to the shoreline via Alternatives is not included in the DEIS.

Additional visual corridor impacts & mitigation are assessed under item 3.7 below.

Figures 3.7-14, 15.16 & 17 Artistic renderings do not show the view from across Main Street at the intersection of 100the Ave SE, looking south toward the park, for any of the alternatives. An informed comparison cannot be assessed between the alternatives without this view being represented.

A dead end at the end of 101 Ave NE could cause motorist to turn around in the middle of the street or in private driveways such as the Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club or the Vue Condominium parking lots. Impact of this occurring has not been included in the DEIS.

### City's Response to Comment

Comment: "A dead end at the end of 101 Ave NE could cause motorist to turn around in the middle of the street or in private driveways..."

Response: This is a speculative concern and therefore not appropriate for review in the EIS. It should be noted that any project-level design would be required to accommodate adequate vehicle turn-around at the terminus of Meydenbauer Way SE.

Comment: "The permits to construct Program Element no. 15; a public dock with viewing platform as proposed in Alternative 1 and many other components of the alternatives are inconsistent with the 25 foot buffer area required in the Critical Area Ordinance."

Response: The Critical Areas Overlay District (Part 20.25H LUC) allows "New or expanded City and public parks" within a critical area, critical area buffer, or critical area structure setback, subject to performance standards contained in LUC 20.25H.055.C.3.g, 20.25E.080.B, and 20.25E.080.R. Where compliance with those performance standards cannot be demonstrated, the underlying requirement of the Critical Areas Overlay District will apply. This will be determined at the project level.

Comment: "The Floating pedestrian boardwalk program Element no. 17 of Alternative 2 is also not predictable due to permitting questions..."

Response: The Draft EIS recognizes that the floating boardwalk "may be more difficult to permit with state and federal agencies as it proposes overwater cover of shallow water habitat (more critical for juvenile salmonids)." (Draft EIS, page 3-108). The Draft EIS recognizes that such construction might trigger habitat creation to address adverse effects on habitat, and that the design might be required to consider increased light transmission through overwater structures, minimizing the number of pilings, or other measures. Alternative 1 contains no floating boardwalk. The Preferred Alternative shifts the floating boardwalk farther from the shoreline, thereby reducing its nearshore impacts compared to Alternative 2. Permitting requirements will be determined at the project level.

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5. Pedestrian priority. The park and its connections should be places that can be enjoyed by pedestrians without fear of conflicts with automobiles. Where vehicle drives or parking area are necessary, they should be designed and located to promote a "pedestrian first" message.

3.5.2.3 Pedestrian access to Shoreline-The permits to construct Program Element no. 15; a public dock with viewing platform as proposed in Alternative 1 and many other components of the alternatives are inconsistent with the 25 foot buffer area required in the Critical Area Ordinance. Therefore, according to the Critical Areas Ordinance (LUC 20.25H.230), the proposal would require a special permit and the DEIS provides no basis upon which the special permit could be granted. In addition, the dock as presently depicted in Alternative 1 intrudes into navigable waters a significant distance into the bay. This will contribute to boating congestion and boating safety issues.

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The Floating <u>pedestrian</u> boardwalk Program Element no. 17 of Alternative 2 is also not predicable due to permitting questions, "The floating boardwalk may be more difficult to permit with state and federal agencies as it proposes overwater cover of shallow water habitat (more critical for juvenile salmonids)."(3-108)

The omission of an alternative which could be currently permitted, does not allow the decision makers to choose between valid options; especially when the permitting of either of the two urban design alternatives are questionable.

6. Economic vitality. The park and its connections should support the nearby business community, providing an interactive and welcoming environment for downtown employees, residents, and visitors. Land uses and urban design elements should contribute to the economic vitality of the area as a whole.

The shoreline of Meydenbauer Bay supports the park and vitality of the area as whole. Marina occupancy contributes to the economic vitality of the waterfront; however each Alternative 1 & 2 significantly diminishes the number of marina slips. Does this reduction lead to an impact with an economic consequence to either/or both city budgets and local commercial centers?

The DEIS does not address access to the shoreline by persons who use the Canoe & Kayak storage area presented in Alternative. 2, or the route represented in Alternative. 1 at point 19. This omission does not allow the evaluation of alternatives by the decision makers.

7. Superior design. The park should be reinforced, communicated and celebrated through high quality urban design, landscape architecture, building design and streetscape treatment, not only within the park itself but also throughout nearby public spaces and park connections. The plan should reflect a high standard of excellence.

The placement of restrooms in Alternative 1 puts young swimmers out of sight of watching parents, and near the intersection of transient loading. Police / kidnapping issues could result. In the proposed location, the restrooms are more likely to be used by transient boaters which is contrary to

### City's Response to Comment

Comment: "The placement of restrooms in Alternative 1 puts young swimmers out of sight of watching parents, and near the intersection of transient loading."

Response: The EIS evaluates different locations for restrooms, some closer to the swim beach than others. Similarly, the EIS evaluates transient moorage location options that reflect different relationships to both the swim beach and the restrooms.

Comment: "The elimination of significant moorage erases a chapter in the history of Meydenbauer Bay and should be addressed in the Final EIS as an unmitigated impact."

Response: Comment acknowledged. Leased moorage will be reduced at this location. Nonetheless considerable moorage will remain in the bay. The effects of reducing public moorage are analyzed in Sections 3.5 and 3.6 of the Draft and Final EIS.

Comment: "A lighting mitigation plan should be included in the FEIS."

Response: This will be addressed at the project level.

Comment: "A City application for Enviro Stars Clean Marina Certification is underway, & the City anticipated receiving the 2 year certification by August 2009". Please define.

Response: EnviroStars is a program available to businesses across the Puget Sound region certifying companies based on their practices and policies that demonstrate commitment to protecting the environment by properly managing and reducing hazardous waste. The program is sponsored by government agencies, and in King County the program is a service of the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program, King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks. Certification is based on the agency's hazardous waste storage and disposal practices, spill prevention, record-keeping systems, and pollution prevention practices which go beyond requirements. The City received certification for the Bellevue Marina on August 24, 2009.

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the intent of bringing people to Meydenbauer Bay from Downtown. The proposed restrooms are elevated above and away from the swimming area, and are adjacent and directly in view of existing residents. The existing restrooms (west end of beach park) are proposed to be eliminated in Alternatives 1 and 2, however they have none of the problems of the proposed restrooms and therefore should remain as close to the current location as possible.

8. Environmental Stewardship. The park design should respect and reflect its unique and sensitive waterfront setting. The plan should explore opportunities to incorporate measures that improve the shoreline characteristics and water quality in the bay. Best practices for sustainable building and land management should be incorporated.

3.5.1.1. / 3.5.2.2 /3.5.2.4 Affected Environment – Sedimentation – There is no qualitative evaluation of the impacts or mitigation for full or partial day-lighting of the stream. Increased turbidity and sedimentation and their effect on the shallow end of the closed bay do not provide decision-makers with enough information to choose a preferred alternative.

3.5.2.3 Alternatives – The reduction of overwater cover anticipated by the removal of Pier 3 has not been compared to the addition of overwater cover added by the floating boardwalk of Alternative.

Although Alternative 2 shows the removal of Pier 3, no new or combination of Alternatives is added to assess what would happen if the floating boardwalk was denied by state and federal agencies as alluded to page 3-108, 5th paragraph.

3.5.2.3 pg 3-103 Piers, Docks & Moorage "[The] related effects to water surface circulation attributable to boat traffic would be subject to the level of use of the in-water improvements". Both Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 change the in-water improvement configuration. The impact of waves & currents from a change of in-water improvement does not appear in the DEIS. Even though this is a programmatic DEIS this information is necessary in choosing a preferred alternative

9. History. The park design should recognize the heritage of Meydenbauer Bay, from the time of Native Americans, explorers and early settlers to the industries of whaling, ferrying, and today's residential and pleasure boat moorage. The plan should assess opportunities to preserve and reuse structures of historical note and incorporate means to animate the bay's rich heritage through public art and interpretive programs.

<u>Table 1.4-1</u> under "Shorelines" claims that there will be a.) "Long-term improved marina infrastructure compared to No-Action, b) and improved overall water-related recreational opportunities"

Response: a) False - the Marina will undergo regular care in a No-Action alternative. b) The reduction from 87 long term moorage slips to 25-40 does not support the long History of residential and pleasure boat moorage; neither Alternatives 1 nor 2 preserves Pier 3, and Alternative 2 eliminates Pier 2 as well. Use by transient boaters or as a kayak/boat rental facility will increase the maintenance and repair requirements compared to current moorage.

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The most notable recent historical aspect of the Park is its history as a Whaling Center. The elimination of significant moorage erases a chapter in the history of Meydenbauer Bay and should be addressed in the FEIS as an unmitigated impact.

10. Neighborhood enhancement and protection. The land use component should be a catalyst for revitalization of older uses while minimizing impacts on neighboring residential areas. Redevelopment of properties in the study area or conversion of apartment buildings to condominiums is expected in the foreseeable future. The land use plan should ensure through rules or incentives that these actions occur in a manner that is both consistent with the area's land use vision and sensitive to adjacent residential uses.

3.5.2.2 (.3) (.4) Impacts – Public Access: consistent with vision & sensitive to adjacent residential uses. There are no light fixtures appearing in any of the graphics and no discussion of outdoor lighting in the DEIS. Creation of Shoreline Viewing Plaza with restrooms and Waterfront Promenade are components of the shoreline use which require lighting that affects the neighbors across the Bay and above the park. A lighting mitigation plan should be include in the FEIS.

Intensity of Impacts to residential uses - There are no attempts in DEIS to estimate the number of quests to the shoreline; either by boat, auto, or pedestrian. No reference is made to potential special events such as triathlons, marathons, concerts, regattas, or firework shows. According to Bellevue officials, the downtown corridor, which housed 39,000 workers in 2008, will have 49,000 by the end of 2010 and nearly double by 2030. The core population is also expected to swell from 5,000 residents in 2008 to 19,000 by 2030. These changes will impact the Bay environment and therefore hours of operation – dusk to dawn closure, etc. should be included in the MBP & LU Plan of the shoreline /overwater elements.

11. Coordinated planning process. The park master plan and the land use plan will impact and influence one another. The planning schedule needs to be flexible and expedient, necessitation close coordination.

3.5.1.2 Regulatory Setting – By requirement of the Washington SMA, Bellevue's SMP is currently being updated. Not all of the Draft Policies and Regulations which affect the Meydenbauer Bay Park Plan & subsequent Draft EIS have been adopted by the City of Bellevue. Inconsistency may occur between the two plans. The DEIS is ahead of this regulation hierarchy. (pg. 3-105) It appears the SMP is already on a divergent path from the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan; a coordinated effort is difficult to achieve when done in reverse order.

3.5.1.2 pg3-105 "A City application for Enviro Stars Clean Marina Certification is underway, & the City anticipated receiving the 2 year certification by August 2009". Please define.

Modification to the LUC to allow a pier of approx 300 foot into the Bay as shown in Alternative 1 may be denied because it can not show ecological benefit. Due to the narrow nature of the bay, and the effects of boat traffic congestion, we suggest a shorter length be considered. The DEIS does not

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**City's Response to Comment** 

address the type of amendment or weight the impact of changing the LUC throughout the City of Bellevue. There could be a "Qualitative impact" for other city shorelines.

Approval of the updated Shoreline Master Plan must be obtained from the Washington State Department of Ecology. Other legal requirements which the City of Bellevue must fulfill have not occurred, such as the Public Approval Process of the SMP scheduled to begin in August 2009.

S, cont

Т

12. Commitment to implement. The Waterfront Plan should include an implementation strategy that leads to the fulfillment of the vision.

3.5.2.2 The "Shoreline" regulatory compliance journey will be long and include local, state and federal permits from the City, Corps, WDFW and Ecology. Commitment to the final design will require additional lengthy SEPA review. A time line for the phasing by the City is not represented in the Meydenbauer Park and Land Use Plan; this results in an omission of strategy to fulfill the vision.

#### Visual Quality

This section was reviewed based on the information provided as it relates to the two viewpoints that were simulated and discussed in the chapter. A detail analysis of the planning principles is not appropriate for the Visual Quality Environment.

#### Light & Glare (ALTERNATIVE 1 - VIEWPOINT 1)

Although "the removal of numerous buildings west of 100th Ave SE" will eliminate light and glare from those structures, the removal of significant amounts of mature vegetation and additional lawn area will open up views to surrounding streets and expose this view to traffic light and glare in the short-term (until new plantings mature). Also, the vehicle pull-off/short-term parking area is visible from this viewpoint. Light from car headlights parking in this area will be directed toward this viewpoint. Additionally, security lighting for proposed structures within the park are likely to remain on, even after park hours, creating light and glare impacts, which the DEIS identifies as "decreased."

#### Visual Simulation (ALTERNATIVE 1A & 2A).

Visual simulation from viewpoint 1 for Alternatives 1A and 2A should be provided. The DEIS states that this viewpoint will be similar (in both alternatives) to the No Action Alternative, but does not account for removal of buildings and mature vegetation west of 100<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, nor does it account for enhanced streetscape along the street. Some additional light and glare will be visible from this viewpoint.

Description of light and glare impacts from viewpoint 2 for Alternatives 1A and 2A states that "light and glare from vehicles using 100th Ave SE would be the same as the No Action Alternative." However, it will not be the "same", since the buildings directly west of the street will be removed, changing traffic flows and volume and eliminating light and glare produced by vehicles using those driveways.

Light & Glare (ALTERNATIVE 2 – VIEWPOINT 1)

**14T.** Comments noted. A number of graphics and visual simulations were included in the Draft EIS to illustrate concepts represented by the various alternatives. They are not intended to cover every possible vantage point, nor are then intended to convey final design or landscape treatments or details. Graphics have been updated where appropriate to reflect the Preferred Alternative (see Section 3.7 of the Final EIS).

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This section states that new structures within the park will have lower lighting levels than existing buildings. However, these lights may be more visible from this viewpoint, since proposed buildings within the park are closer in proximity to the shoreline, significant amounts of mature vegetation will be removed, and lower plantings (i.e. lawn areas) between the viewpoint and lit buildings leave the view open to light and glare exposure.

### Viewpoint 2 - ALTERNATIVE 2

Although the view to the Bay is increased in this alternative when compared to the No Action Alternative, the view is significantly less than Alternative 1. The DEIS should compare the two alternatives, rather than discussing view quality from within the project area.

#### Visual Summary

Although the DEIS states that visual and aesthetic changes associated with the project alternatives would be consistent with the 12 planning principles and City of Bellevue policies and Land Use Code, this Chapter does not discuss how the alternatives meet the relevant principles and policies. The beginning of the Chapter identifies the regulatory settings, but the summary should identify how the alternatives comply with the regulations. (i.e. Do the alternatives "create a remarkable and memorable shoreline experience?")

T, cont

The statement near the end of the first paragraph of the Summary states: "Alternative 2 would create more locations for view opportunities both north of 100th Ave SE and north of 99th Ave NE than Alternative 1 due to increased ease of circulation and accessibility. This statement is inaccurate in two regards. First, these streets run relatively north-south. It does not make sense that view opportunities will be created north of these streets. Secondly, it is clear from visual simulations and discussion within the chapter that Alternative 1 creates more open view to Meydenbauer Bay than Alternative 2, and access to the shoreline appears to be more direct in the first alternative. This statement should be re-evaluated or its intent made more clearly in the FEIS.

Additionally, discussions of regulatory settings provided in the Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan, Chapter 2 states: "Bellevue's park system should preserve and enhance the City's beauty and provide visual relief from the impacts of urban living..." Visual simulations in the DEIS clearly depict Alternative 2 as a more urban setting than Alternative 1. Does Alternative 2 meet this guidance principle, when compared with the other alternatives? Again, summary should include discussion of how the alternatives meet relevant City principles and policies.



#### **Graphic Discrepancies**

In graphic depictions of the Alternatives, the section provided by EDAW for Alternative 1 Section A-A', the section line crosses the grassy picnic area and swim beach on the plan. However, the section itself depicts a vegetated shoreline in these areas. This section should depict a grassy area and beach materials in this area.





Our review of the Noise Chapter concluded that the material and information presented is inadequate to provide decision makers with sufficient information to determine if there will be impacts to the surrounding area as a result of the proposed action alternatives. This conclusion was

### City's Response to Comment

**14U.** Although the Draft EIS does not contain section drawings, the inconsistency between the separately prepared Section Location map and the Section drawing is noted.

**14V.** As described in Chapter 2 of the EIS, most elements of the environment are evaluated in a qualitative, not quantitative, approach because of the programmatic nature of the project. SEPA does not require site-specific, quantitative noise modeling as part of the environmental review process. Based on professional judgment and review of the project, site-specific noise modeling is not proposed as part of the environmental analysis in the EIS based on the fact that the project would not create any new noise sources or substantially alter existing sources. However, general quantitative noise estimates were incorporated into the analysis where appropriate based on industry-accepted professional standards. Noise propagates over water at the same rate as over any hard surface (-6 dB per doubling of distance), such as parking lots (CalTrans 1998). However, the analysis does not specifically take into account the topography of the project region because no substantial changes to topography would occur under any alternatives, and, as stated below, no new noise sources (including additional motor-powered watercraft) or changes to existing noise sources that would substantially increase noise would occur along the waterfront. While the action alternatives would increase the numbers of park users and upland residents, as stated in the Draft EIS, no new noise sources would be created by the project; noise levels would remain similar to existing conditions at all receivers surrounding the project site, including those across water, under all alternatives.

The methodology to evaluate noise-related impacts involved site characterization, consideration of applicable noise standards and regulations, analysis of potential noise-related impacts associated with the alternatives, and determination of significance. As presented in the analysis, two potential noise sources would exceed the 57 dBA threshold for Environmental Designations for Noise Abatement (EDNA) for EDNA zone A parcels, which are established by zoning area.

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♠ based on two important factors that were not considered in the Noise Study. The first deficiency is the lack of quantitative data and only qualitative data. The second factor is the topography and unique physical features of the bay having land on three sides of the water.

V, cont

The presented information lacks a quantitative data analysis. This does not meet the adequacy test for a DEIS and does not provide decision makers the needed information to identify and mitigate environmental impacts.

The amphitheater like setting of the Meydenbauer Bay will amplify noise more than if the setting were a typical waterfront situation where noise would disseminate out to the body of water. In this situation, the noise will reverberate or bounce back off the houses and sloped terrain on the south side of the bay. Failure to discuss these issues results in an inadequate document in which decisions are to be based on. This deficiency must be addressed in the FEIS.

#### Closing Comments

The goal of this letter has been to bring a wide range of interested parties and technical consultants together into one common document and to present this information in a coordinated effort. The research, analysis and comments involved have been a broad-based, intensive, highly involved process. We trust the need for additional information and identified mitigation, recommended by a wide range of contributors and interested parties will be given serious consideration so that a Draft SEIS or Final EIS addresses all the issues raised and meets the NEPA and SEPA requirement for a Full Disclosure Document.

If you have any questions regarding our findings, please feel free to contact any of the undersigned.

R.W. Thorpe & Associates, Inc.

Robert W. Thorpe, AICP

Appendix B-Photograph Inventory

President

Enclosures:

Barbara Baker, AICP

Associate

### City's Response to Comment

**14V (continued).** These two sources include motorboat noise (estimated using source noise levels from Latorre and Vasconcellos [2001] and sound propagation formulas from the Federal Transit Administration [2006]) and landscape maintenance (estimated using source noise levels from EDAW [1997] and sound propagation formulas from the Federal Transit Administration [2006]). These noise sources (which are also present under existing conditions) are estimated to result in periodic, short-term noise levels of 59 dBA (for motorboats) and 80 dBA (for landscape maintenance) to the nearest sensitive receptors under the project alternatives. Personal watercraft (e.g., jetskis) were not specifically evaluated, as distinct from other motorpowered watercraft; however, this existing use would not change as part of the proposal. Activities related to watercraft would be reduced some under all action alternatives, which reduce the amount of moorage at the marina.

Noise associated with Meydenbauer Bay Park is exempt from EDNA noise standards under BCC 9.18.020 during normal park hours, and the local police jurisdiction would typically enforce quiet hours to reduce disturbance and annoyance after hours. Noise-producing activities would be exempt during daylight hours, restricted by local city code during night time hours, and enforced by local police. Therefore, sleep disturbance, human annoyance, and noise in excess of applicable standards would be mitigated to less-thansignificant levels. The analysis conducted is appropriate for the program-level review and provides sufficient information for decision-makers.

Appendix A- Qualifications of Robert W. Thorpe, AICP

### **CHAPTER 5 – REFERENCES**

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