

From: [Bainbridge Citizens](#)
To: [*Bainbridge Citizens](#)
Subject: Come to the March for Homes ----- Today
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 10:04:11 AM

Please join the March for Homes

Join over a hundred of your fellow citizens

- Save Our Homes,
- Make existing waterfront homes and yards CONFORMING, and
- Protect Water-Dependent Uses

MARCH ON CITY HALL

Meet in front of T&C

Wed. 3/13

6:30pm

RAIN OR SHINE

BRING:

Umbrella,
Sign, and
A friend

PARKING

1. Eagle Harbor Church (SW corner of Madison and Winslow Way)
2. Next to BPA and the gravel one below
3. Post Office - parking in back of the bank and the Post Office

Protect Shoreline Homes and Water-Dependent Uses

We are marching to City Hall to tell the City Council that it is not OK to make our homes and waterfront yards nonconforming, and to take away our right to access and use the water.

When speaking to the City Council, now at the SMP meeting or later as an individual, make your comments personal about your property, your family, and your love of the Sound and the beach.

What do shoreline property owners want?

- 1.

Conforming – Declare existing legally-built homes and other residential uses conforming as to SMP buffers and setbacks. The only reason for the City to make our front yards and homes nonconforming is to eliminate the nonconformity over time. If that is not the city’s intent, then they can’t use Nonconforming. If it is their intent, then that means war. SSB 5451 gives the Council the authority to make existing homes and uses conforming and declares it will not “risk .. degrading shoreline natural resources”.

2. **One Residential Zone** – We want one residential zone. The Draft divides the shoreline into Residential and Residential Conservancy. All the lots are similar: small 50 to 100 feet wide. A “Feeder Bluffs” designation is not a reason for a larger buffer that takes away your right to use your front yard. A geological hazard is a reason for a larger construction setback but not a larger buffer.

3. **Promote Water-Dependent Uses** - We live on an Island because we want to be near the water and enjoy it. Taking away our historic right to water-dependent uses, such as docks and floats, makes no sense. The only requirement should be to meet the “No Net Loss” requirement. The SMA defines single-family waterfront homes as a “preferred Water-dependent” use. Let’s keep it that way.

4. **No Trees Requirement** - Property owners should have the right to choose the type of vegetation planted in order to protect views and the views of neighbors. If mitigation is required for remodeling or rebuilding, you would not be forced to plant trees that would block your view and that of your neighbors. We have building height limits, sight lines, and 30% side yard requirements to protect views. It makes no sense to require trees that will block everyone’s views. Let people choose.

5. **No expansion of Aquatic Conservancy or Priority Aquatic** – The new shoreline designations unnecessarily convert all of Fletchers Bay and the Point Monroe Lagoon into “**Aquatic Conservancy**”. Both areas are highly developed with homes, boathouses and docks. The only harm being done to both lagoons is that they are being filled with silt from road runoff from City streets

6. **Notice of Impacts.** The City knows the address of every waterfront property owner and should send everyone a notice detailing nonconforming, buffer sizes and restrictions on development and water-dependent uses. That seems like only the fair thing to do.

Voted for Nonconforming

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Voted for Conforming

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Protecting Private Property Rights

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Gary Tripp, Director

Bainbridge Citizens

***Commonsense Environmental Regulations
and Accountable Government***