

From: [Roz Lassoff](#) on behalf of [CityClerk](#)
To: [Theresa Rice](#); [Kathy Cook](#); [Ryan Ericson](#)
Subject: FW: comment intended to be delivered at march 13 meeting
Date: Monday, March 18, 2013 8:21:05 AM

Roz Lassoff
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-----Original Message-----

From: bruce taft [<mailto:brucetaft@mac.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 2:24 PM
To: Council; CityClerk
Cc: charles schmid; frank stowell; Elise Wright; lisamacchio@msn.com macchio
Subject: comment intended to be delivered at march 13 meeting

I had intended to give this talk at the March 13 meeting. I gave my time to Frank Stowell. Please accept this version.

I have been a shoreline resident on South Beach Dr. (10580 NE South Beach Dr.) for 22 years. I am a physical oceanographer and have held positions at the UW Department of Oceanography (Research Professor) and NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (Leader of Ocean Climate Research Division). I was a member of the SMP Working Group on Shoreline Stabilization.

I will describe a local project in which a group of citizens undertook to reduce shoreline erosion in our neighborhood. The project involved negotiations with the City Planning Department because it required a permit. I will also comment on some pertinent remarks made at the March 9 meeting sponsored by the Bainbridge Shoreline Homeowners Association.

Physical conditions on the stretch of beach in front of our house depends on the wind field south of Bainbridge Is. Winds generally blow from the southwest toward Bainbridge. On some occasions the winds shift to blow from the southeast. These southeast winds have a longer fetch and therefore generate higher surface waves. These higher waves crash on the beach and will increase erosion of the shoreline. During March 2006 southeast winds were strong and severe erosion occurred. Erosion almost extended to the edge of the adjacent roadway. We concluded that the next storm with strong southeast winds might result in destruction of the road.

The community decided to take preventive action. Eleven homeowners made proposals to the City to either install new bulkheads or repair damaged existing bulkheads. Permits were obtained and construction was completed. This project resulted in a demonstrated decrease of the rate of erosion. It is ironic that several commentators at the March 9 meeting incorrectly excoriated the City for their supposed opposition to the use of bulkheads to protect the shoreline. In this case the City was a willing participant in promoting the use of bulkheads to reduce shoreline erosion and should be given due credit. I suggest that this demonization of the City was excessive and counter-productive.