

Theresa Rice

From: Bainbridge Citizens [gary@tripp.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 12:52 PM
To: *Bainbridge Citizens
Subject: SMP - Why is the city exceeding the DOE Guidelines

From: John Green JGreen7474@aol.com

I have strong feelings about the SMP. I have expressed this in the past.

Two things I would like to further outline.

1. In the past 18 years or so, since my interest with the on goings at City Hall, I have witnessed a number of rash financial decisions made by both Council and City Management. I will not discuss these here, because our past history of Government performance is nothing to brag about in Public.

What we have done very well, is spend millions of dollars on projects that could have achieved better results within the Community, both in execution and experienced management. In short, the Community is mostly upset, disappointed and angry at City Hall. Granted, you as sitting Council members, may have had nothing to do with past financial mishaps, but you are guilty by association.

You are now faced with the task of finding funds to accomplish the basic functions, the responsibilities of Government to the Community. The list is out there, but generally comes down to Roads, Stormwater and Public Safety.

Having made the above comments about responsibility and past mistakes.....along comes the SMP.

2. I have read about as much as a lay person needs to about the SMP, both in expert opinion and that of the requirements/directives from the Department of Ecology. I have the opinion that the quality of water and marine life, is directly a result of stormwater discharge(roads and automobiles), industry, upland livestock concentration and sewer treatment discharge(treated or not).

I disagree passionately, that the residents along the shoreline have anything to do with the water quality or marine life, in fact they are stewards of the coast line, and should be complemented for their efforts.

The SMP proposed by the City of Poulsbo, appears to me, as being one written using plenty of common sense, and awareness(respect) of the shoreline Community. Yes, they have some detailed regulations about over the water activities, but nothing that impacts the homeowner, or the homeowners use of their property, in normal day to day pursuits.

The City of Bainbridge has, it appears to me, to have outdone themselves in their efforts to isolate the Community, punish the shoreline homeowners for doing absolutely nothing, except acting as good stewards. Why is it that Bainbridge, has to go out of their way to bring attention to themselves, and to their conduct towards environmental issues, that simply do not exist.

Why does City Hall, fund the cost of drafting a SMP, that clearly is lacking in prudent common sense, but instead, reflects an unprovoked attack upon shoreline residents?

Is it not the responsibility of the entire Community, as to their conduct with respect to stormwater/marine management?

Question: How many of you drive cars that leak oil onto the roadway? How many of you drive cars, that as a result of the age and lack of maintenance, pollute through their tailpipes?

The DOE, nowhere in their program, says Community Government has to impact property owners along the shoreline, at anywhere near the levels you are now proposing!

Why then, has Bainbridge, decided to embark on this route, when they have failed on so many other positions, in their overall responsibility towards Community?

See (1) above if you are not following my argument.

I would ask Council to seriously review the prior impacts to the Community, from economical decisions of the past, and look at the SMP, as a platform to build respect, and evaluate responsibility towards the Community at large.

What I mean by that, is to apply the very minimum requirements for the SMP, as outlined by the DOE. The very minimum required, even to a point that DOE may offer caution.

It would be a great signal to the Community, that you as Council Members have the respect towards us all, and recognize that mistakes have been made in the past, that have caused Community backlash.

Here is an opportunity to at least support the Community, especially shoreline residents, and vote against anything in the current Staff Plan, that is not the very minimum required, if to vote a change at all.

A common sense approach to decision making, is the least costly to Community and the Environment, yet has the long term equity to build support.

With Respect,

John Green.
Laughing Salmon Lane.

February 2nd.2013.