

From: [Roz Lassoff](#) on behalf of [Council](#)
To: [Kathy Cook](#); [Theresa Rice](#); [Ryan Ericson](#)
Subject: FW: Shoreline Master Program Comments
Date: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 5:49:05 PM

Roz Lassoff
Rosalind D. Lassoff, City Clerk
City of Bainbridge Island
280 Madison Avenue North
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 780-8624

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan & Kathy Huxley [<mailto:huxley@bainbridge.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 5:47 PM
To: Council
Subject: Shoreline Master Program Comments

Council Members, COBI:

We would like to offer the following comments for you to consider as you finalize the COBI Shoreline Master Program document. We are waterfront property owners who have lived in our house on Murden Cove for the last 15 years. Our house, originally build in the 1930's and substantially remodeled in 1991, has limited waterfront setback and would be considered nonconforming under the current draft SMP.

We support the goals of the SMP established by the state and the importance of balancing development of the shoreline with protection of the environment, particularly the near shore areas which are vital to the health of the sound.

We believe the provisions of the latest draft are reasonable and manageable, even for nonconforming properties such as ours. Comments I read in the Bainbridge Review by irate waterfront property owners bear little resemblance to what I find in the current draft online. While an angry crowd storming city hall screaming of the coming apocalypse if the SMP is approved may be good theatre, it has no basis in the reality of what the document actually says.

We believe that comments that the SMP represents a unconstitutional taking of property is far more hype than reality. A strong and reasonable SMP is in everyone's best interest, including waterfront property owners. Our concern would be the impact on our property value if the environmental protections of the SMP are gutted and the island's nearshore environment continues to degrade.

We live on Murden Cove which is considered environmentally impaired and is now the focus of a joint agency study to understand what are the forces within this significant watershed area that are causing this decline. It's unlikely that the answer to the cove's improvement is to further deregulate near shore property development.

We need reasonable and sensible regulation and policy regarding the island's shoreline management; we believe the current draft of the SMP provides that. The document is not perfect and never will be. But the process to develop and refine the document has been exhaustive and inclusive. All sides have had the opportunity for input and have helped shape the document you now have before you.

The SMP process has now been going on for almost 4 years and it is now time for the Council to act. We ask that you consider our comments as part of the final public comment period and vote to approve the document for submittal to the DOE at your meeting on May 15th, 2013. Do NOT delay this action, it is simply too important!

Thank you for your consideration,

Dan & Kathy Huxley
9440 Green Spot Pl NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110