



**BUREAU
VERITAS**

Berryman & Henigar

M E M O R A N D U M

Date: August 15, 2005
To: Fidalgo Island Subarea Plan CAC and TAC
From: Roger Wagoner
Re: August 11, 2005 Meeting Notes

This was a special meeting starting at 6:00 PM in the Fidalgo Elementary Multipurpose Room. The purpose of the meeting was to gather public questions and comments regarding the status of state and county parks planning and development on Fidalgo Island. More than 50 persons were in attendance. Most signed-in. Jeroldine Hallberg introduced Jack Hart, Manager of Deception Pass State Park, Bob Vaux and Brian Adams of Skagit County Parks and Recreation, and Forrest Jones, County Traffic Engineer. Jack and Bob described the respective situations of their facilities. Deception Pass State Park attracts up to 1.5 million visitors annually. About half in the summer. A large percentage of these visitors go to West Beach. Very few use the primitive trails. The difference between “trail heads” and “trail access” is that trail heads are more highly developed with parking areas and other facilities. State Parks has stopped all development of a trail head on Ginnett Road and wishes to open a community planning process to determine the best way to provide access to the trail through the “Naked Man Valley”. Skagit County Parks owns Sharpe Park and the adjacent Montgomery-Duban Headlands Park which together, total 113 acres of forests and beaches. The County also maintains the DNR boat launch sites at Campbell Lake and Lake Erie. The County, the City of Anacortes, and Washington State Parks have worked on creating a “Cross-Island” or “Evergreen” trail that would connect the San Juan Ferry Terminal to Deception Pass. There are some missing links, particularly between the Anacortes Community Forest and Deception Pass State Park. However, due to community concerns, planning for completion of this trail is on hold. Forrest provided a handout showing recent county traffic count data for some of the Fidalgo network. Ed Goodman facilitated the public question and comment session. Notes were taken on a newsprint pad and are filed with the County Planning and Development Services Department.

CAC/TAC Meeting

CAC: Ed Goodman, Mike Trafton, Tom Stowe
TAC: Jim Mecca, Bob Bell, Konrad Kurp, Ross Barnes, David Larson, David Pearson
Skagit County: Jeroldine Hallberg
B&H: Roger Wagoner
Public Comment: Harold Berlin

Mr. Berlin said that he had comments on some of the issues raised in the “Neighbors” petition. He will provide them at another time.

Roger described the tentative completion schedule for the plan (attached) The week of August 22nd, B&H will send out an updated Land Use Element and the new Transportation and Capital Facilities Elements. These will be discussed at the September 8 regular meeting. A second September meeting will involve discussion of the Implementation Element and the October meeting will be the final Committee review of the entire Plan. From there it will go through county staff review and on to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners. Adoption will be sometime in 2006.

For the next meeting, members should be prepared to discuss CaRDs, good and bad, and how to make them fit Fidalgo better. B&H will provide some evaluation materials in the packet.

Other items discussed included:

- County road standards should be evaluated to determine how road improvements can accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists better.
- Drainage standards for projects in areas with slopes and poor soils need strengthening.
- All new development should be required to have all electrical service, telephone lines, and cable services underground. Ideally wires in the rights-of-way should also be undergrounded, but this is unlikely.
- More information is needed about the “Similk Beach Access” issue. The plan should recommend that all existing street ends at beaches should be preserved. When the County updates the Shoreline Master Program, public access to the shoreline can be considered further.

Memorandum to _____

Date

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